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Preview

Victorian cards, chocolate hearts, inscribed balloons and kisses from a French maid are among the ideas for Valentine's Day presents suggested in today's *Preview*. The 16-page weekly arts and entertainments guide also contains information on films, theatre, music, dance, exhibitions, sport, family outings and broadcasting in Britain, plus the skier Konrad Bartelski's view of the course for tomorrow's men's downhill world championship race

US agents forecast Shah's fall

Documents seized from the American Embassy in Tehran and published by the Iranians show that American diplomats and intelligence agents accurately assessed the situation in the last stages of the Shah's regime. Doubts over the regime's stability appeared in secret reports two years before the revolution Page 9

Yard to restore lost £5,000

Scotland Yard is to pay £5,443, plus £1,670 in interest, to a former prisoner after conceding that the money, confiscated from him during an arrest, had been lost. No disciplinary action is to be taken. Back page

Amend schools Act, MPs say

The Education Act, 1944, should be amended to give the Secretary of State powers to intervene when a local authority appears to be failing to provide a nationally agreed level of education, the Commons Select Committee for Education, Science and The Arts says Page 2

Clash on mental patients' rights

A Nurses' union and a mental health charity clashed over a case before the European Commission of Human Rights in Strasbourg yesterday in which the Government is accused of denying menta patients' rights Page 3

Mubarak firm on Palestinians

President Mubarak of Egypt has underlined his deep differences with Israel on the Palestinian problem. After talks with President Reagan in Washington, he said the Palestinians had a right to self-determination and to function as a national entity Page 8

Speaker's ban

Referring to the use in the Commons of a four-letter word, Mr George Thomas said: "As long as I am Speaker, I shall consider that an unparliamentary expression. None of us would use it in our homes. I hope this House can maintain a better example to the country" Diary, Page 12
Frank Johnson, Back Page

Rape therapy

Women who have been attacked sexually have volunteered to meet rapists in Maidstone prison, Kent, so that they can better understand the serious consequences of their crime Page 7

World Cup talks

Mr Neil Macfarlane, the Minister for Sport, will see Spanish Government officials in Madrid today to discuss the possibility of hooliganism during the World Cup finals this summer. Page 8

Alliance vote

The social democrats and the Liberals have announced they will vote with the Government on next Monday's second reading of the Employment Bill.

Royal tribute

Tomorrow is the thirtieth anniversary of the Queen's accession to the Throne. In tomorrow's *Times* Sir Harold Wilson, who served Her Majesty as Prime Minister during four administrations, pays a personal tribute.

Leader page, 13
Letters: On Civil Service pay, from Mr Bernard Gottlieb, and others; Alliance leadership, from Lord Tordoff; Ulster, from Mr William McDowell.
Leading articles: private and public medicine; Schmidt's economic measures.
Features, pages 10, 12
David Watt assesses the SDP leadership contest; how President Mubarak sets the new Cairo style; the statistical triumph of England's cricket tour of India; Professor Robin Marris says British graduates are the best value for money in the world.
Obituary, page 14
Professor F. T. C. Carter, Mr Sigmund Pollitzer.

Defiant Pym to repeat warnings on economy

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Mr Francis Pym, who was severely criticized in private by the Prime Minister for a speech on Monday which she considered too pessimistic, believes that he was right to speak as he did and means to do so again. He has told Conservative MPs, most of whom agree with him, it is vital that the chances of early economic recovery are not overplayed by ministers.

His own belief is that expectations in the party and the country are too high at a time when there is world recession and low output and continuing long-established overmanning at home.

Mr Pym, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons, is also in charge of co-ordinating Government information, and he thinks that the general impression given by his colleagues in the Government in recent speeches has been that the country's economic health is improving faster than in fact it is. He has asked for speeches to be more balanced.

The opposite view, held by some people in industry and the Treasury, is that the restoration of confidence would itself be of economic benefit and that every sign of recovery must be trumpeted. This belief has certainly been reflected in many recent speeches from Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and others.

Mr Pym's offence, in the Prime Minister's eyes, was that his Monday speech was too sombre. He said living standards could only fall in the short run, and that for some time to come we would face a struggle just to hold on to something like our present living standards. There could be no early return to full or nearly full employment, he said.

Asked next day by Mr Michael Foot about "this remarkable speech", the Prime Minister said it was excellent, and quoted the most cheerful parts she could find. But Mrs Thatcher's private comments to members of her Downing Street staff were different. She did not think much of the speech, it was out of line with what Treasury ministers had been saying and contained unfortunate sentences.

She appears to have recognized that Mr Pym was saying something which he thought important, but described him as a pessimist.

Up to last night, however, these decided and critical views, although deliberately made public and duly passed on by political reporters, had not been conveyed to Mr Pym directly. Nor when the two met at yesterday's Cabinet meeting was there any hint of the Prime Minister's displeasure.

But Mr Pym, who reads the newspapers, yesterday showed his resentment of the accusation of pessimism, whether it was made by the Prime Minister or in her name. He regards himself as a realist. He has pointed out to friends that he has made speeches in similar vein, at the Conservative Party conference and elsewhere.

He believes that the Conservatives have a better chance than any other party of forming the next Government, but not if they mislead the country and raise hopes too high.

He is strikingly sure of his ground and is pleased at the prospect that his speech and the Prime Minister's response to it may have the effect of bringing into the public arena the question which he thinks of major importance: how the country can adjust to the prospect of long-term high unemployment.

Last night Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, joined in the debate, saying that Mr Pym had caused a sensation by proclaiming a few home truths. It was considered amazing for a Cabinet Minister to say that living standards might fall and that many things were outside the control of governments.

Mr Edwards said that Mr Pym had been criticizing the kind of unrealistic expectation that was aroused when Mr Peter Shore, Opposition spokesman on the economy, suggested in the Commons that the Government might borrow £6,000m to reflate the economy without forcing interest rates up.

Mr Edwards also confessed to increasing optimism; he saw increasing signs of a breakthrough and the upturn in industrial production was an encouraging sign that recovery had begun.

"Though we are living through a desperately difficult period in which living standards will certainly fall and in which people's false expectations will be dashed, we have begun to put our house in order and we will emerge from this recession into a more prosperous world just as we have done in the past," he said.

New weapon destined for Europe

Reagan seeks funds for chemical warfare

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Feb 4

Among the budget proposals which President Reagan will send to Congress on Monday is expected to be an unwelcome bombshell for his European allies.

The President is to ask Congress to approve a big increase in funds for the development of a new nerve gas for chemical warfare. Although he may not formally approve the production of binary chemical weapons, the clear implication behind his request is that production will begin in the next year or so.

The reason why his request will create unease in Nato is that the weapons—like the neutron bomb—are designed primarily for use in Europe and not the United States, although the Administration insists they would not be deployed in Europe without prior consultation.

The United States is likely to try to offset another wave of anti-American sentiment in Europe by proposing more talks on a treaty to eliminate all chemical weapons in all countries. Such an approach—preparing to build weapons in the future while at the same time expressing willingness to negotiate their abolition — is similar to the American tactics on reducing medium-range missiles in Europe at the current Geneva talks.

The United States and the Soviet Union have been negotiating to prohibit the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons since 1976. Negotiations have also been taking place in Geneva within the disarmament conference.

However, the view of many Nato countries is that a decision to go ahead with binary chemical weapons would have a severely adverse effect on European public opinion. In particular, it is feared it could renew opposition to Nato's plan to deploy 572 Pershing 2 and ground-based cruise missiles in Europe.

Chemical warfare is an emotive subject and one that is easily exploited for propaganda purposes by the East and West. The Soviet Union, for example, likes to point out that it took the United States half a century before it ratified the 1925 Geneva protocol banning the use of chemical agents in warfare. (This protocol forbids first use of such weapons, but not their production or stockpiling.)

President Nixon ended the production of chemical weapons in America in 1969, although large stockpiles have been retained both there and in Europe. Despite that decision small amounts of money were allocated for research and development during the subsequent decade.

Last year, the chemical weapons budget doubled to $455m (£245m) and President Reagan is expected to ask for almost twice that amount, $810m, for 1983. According to officials the Administration has projected a budget of $1.400m for such weapons by 1984.

Congress has already voted $23m for a binary weapons plant at Pine Bluffs in Arkansas. But American officials have assured Nato that construction of that factory does not commit the President to authorize actual production of weapons.

Binary chemicals weapons are so named because there are two primary ingredients of the nerve gas which are kept separate, and therefore safe, until use. The two chemicals become lethal when they are mixed in flight in an artillery shell or bomb.

The gas comes in two forms. One, called G5, is colourless and odourless and is lethal within a minute when inhaled. The other, called VX, is similar but hangs in the atmosphere for days to deny an area to enemy troops. Both kill by paralysis.

The justification for going ahead with the production of new chemical weapons is that they are needed to deter Soviet use of such weapons in West Europe. It is also argued they are safer to handle than existing premixed chemical weapons, which are beginning to deteriorate.

US defence cost, page 8

John Manning



Train of thought: Lord McCarthy at Aslef headquarters with Mr Alan Meale, personal secretary to Mr Raymond Buckton, the union's general secretary.

'Fight to death' on railways

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

Hopes that the train drivers' union could be persuaded to give evidence to the committee of inquiry into the rail dispute were dashed last night when British Rail and the two other unions rejected a formula to gain the footplate men's cooperation.

The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen told Lord McCarthy, chairman of the inquiry, that it would only attend if British Rail made a 3 per cent payment and the inquiry discussed ways of getting the dispute back into the industry's negotiating machinery.

Some industry sources were predicting that the dispute could go on for a long time. "It's now a fight to the death", one said.

Earlier attempts had been been made to persuade the train drivers' union to cooperate with an inquiry into the rail dispute which yesterday closed the network for the twelfth time in four weeks.

Lord McCarthy, the inquiry chairman, had spent two hours with the seven executive members of Aslef who repeated that they were not prepared to give evidence to the inquiry under the current terms of reference.

Lord McCarthy last night reported that view to two colleagues on the committee and officials of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service, which called the inquiry.

He then called British Rail, the National Union of Railwaymen and the Transport Salaried Staffs' Association, who have all agreed to attend the inquiry to the Acas offices to explain the Aslef position.

Aslef objects to the inclusion in the terms of reference of the introduction of the 39-hour working week and the productivity understanding on flexible rostering.

Lord McCarthy will have to move quickly if he is ot get the inquiry established because the Aslef executive will be breaking up soon after lunchtime today with members returning to their regions.

Lord McCarthy said after his meeting with the executive: "We are all extremely conscious of the need to make progress and move as swiftly as we can, but we want to get it right."

He apparently told the executive that he was not there to pressurize them into joining the inquiry but to hear in detail why the union had decided against cooperating.

British Rail again failed to run a service from Aylesbury to Marylebone, London, because yesterday the NUR driver expected to take out the first train did not turn up. Aslef had mounted a picket at Aylesbury in case any NUR members attempted to take trains out.

Attempts to run a limited service in the Rhondda Valley were also unsuccessful when NUR drivers at the Treherbert depot, Mid-Glamorgan, refused to cross Aslef picket lines.

The British Railways Board yesterday put off any decision on action against Aslef while there was still hope that the inquiry would get off the ground. British Rail will attempt to run a service on days when Aslef is not on strike although that may be difficult next week with the union planning to hold stoppages on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. One option is for the board to suspend the 20,000 train drivers on Wednesday because a reasonable service will be impossible.

BR nearly broke, page 2

£10m riots claim by De Lorean

By Tim Jones
Belfast

The Northern Ireland Office is investigating a claim for more than £10m in compensation for riot damage from Mr John De Lorean, whose Belfast-based car manufacturing operation, funded by more than £80m of British Government money, is apparently foundering on the rock of the American recession.

The company, conceived by Mr De Lorean to build a "dream car" for the American market, has already received £424,000 compensation out of a claim for £514,000 for fire damage caused to buildings at the plant last May when Republican feeling in West Belfast exploded after the death of Bobby Sands, the hunger striker.

The latest claim, also connected with that night of violence, is understood to relate in part to damage caused by the destruction of company records relating to potential customers plus request for compensation for loss of production.

Interviewed by *The Times* in New York earlier this week Mr De Lorean said he had made a serious mistake in launching his company in Belfast.

"We had a terrible time producing a management team because Englishmen would not work there. We grossly underestimated the magnitude of the problem," he said.

Company premises had been fire-bombed 140 times and company executives had been shot at by snipers many times.

It is understood that the police have no record of any complaint from a company executive complaining of having been shot at, and it appears that police records show that the company was fire-bombed on only two occasions.

This does not mean that Mr De Lorean is wrong in his assessment for it may be that during the two attacks 140 petrol bombs were thrown towards the plant.

The factory is in a neutral zone between the Protestant and Roman Catholic areas and it is entirely feasible that during the tense period of the hunger strike shots exchanged between the two communities passed over the plant.

During that period more than 20,000 petrol bombs were thrown in Belfast alone.

The company said last night that 1,100 of its 2,600 workers have been told their jobs finish next Friday. Their chances of finding skilled work are slim. Other large employers in the province such as Shorts, Mackies and Harland and Wolff are shedding jobs because of the recession. The loss of De Lorean jobs is a massive blow to an economy which is already precarious.

Lucas Aerospace to shed 1,050 jobs

By Business News Staff

The fabrications division of Lucas Aerospace in Burnley, part of the Lucas Industries group, is to make 1,050 of its 2,800 workers redundant in May.

The company blames the world recession and cuts in defence spending which has hit the aerospace industry by reducing forward orders.

The factory's biggest customer is Rolls-Royce, for whom it makes components for the RB-211 engine used on Boeing 747 and Lockheed TriStar airliners.

Burnley also makes parts for the Rolls-Royce RB-199. These are used on Tornado military aircraft flown by the Italian, West German and British air forces, which have all suffered cuts in defence spending.

A statement issued by the company yesterday said: "In the recent past the company has been actively seeking to widen its markets and while a number of these projects offer potential for the future they provide no answer to the immediate problems. Further, any new contracts will have to be won against fierce international competition."

Discussions are being held with trade union representatives to achieve the cuts by voluntary redundancy and early retirement.

Mr Philip Asquith, chairman of the Lucas shop stewards committee, said: "We have campaigned three times in the past decade against redundancies, and won each time. We shall continue to campaign again.

"We do not intend Burnley to become another ghost town in east Lancashire. Lucas made £6m profit over the last two years, and this should have been used to help us over the lean times."

In the year to last July, Lucas Industries lost £21.4m before tax compared with profits of £41m in 1980. But the second-half showed pretax profits of £4m after charging redundancy and closure costs of £19.2, so indicating that the worst of the cutbacks were over,

There has been an upturn on the vehicle equipment side, which bore all the closure costs last year and lost £45.3m, so forecasts were optimistic and it was thought that the group could make about £50m this year.

Lucas shed 10,267 jobs last year reducing the workforce to 53,700. Over the year the group's debt rose 71 per cent.

Power men reject 7% pay offer

Leaders of Britain's 92,000 power workers rejected a 7 per cent pay increase yesterday. The offer, from the Electricity Council, was said to be worth about 5½ per cent on pay, with the remainder coming from a 10 per cent rise on payments for shift and unsocial hours.

The industry's manual workers have put in a claim for a 12 per cent pay rise with improvements in holidays, a cut in the present 37-hour working week, extra pay for long service and earlier retirement.

But the claim, which matched the rate of inflation, is now likely to be aimed at the miners' 9.3 per cent settlement.

Mr John Edmonds, General and Municipal Workers' national energy officer and secretary of the union's negotiating team, said: "We rejected the offer. There was a long argument about financial pressures on the electricity industry and the substantial productivity improvements our members have made over the last 10 years.

"The Electricity Council's offer is no more than an opening shot and leaves us a long way short of a settlement." The next full meeting of the two sides will be on March 4.

Surprise at MSC job switch

By Tony Samstag

The Manpower Services Commission has a new chairman to the surprise of both sides of industry. The appointment of Mr David Young, a former adviser to Sir Keith Joseph, is being widely interpreted as meaning that his popular predecessor, Sir Richard O'Brien, whose present term of office ends in April, has been dismissed.

Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, said last night that Sir Richard would be missed and that the Manpower Services Commission "can only succeed with a chairman who has those same qualities".

A spokesman for the Confederation of British Industry would say only that the appointment is a matter for the minister—Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment—and was his prerogative.

Privately, however, there was concern that the appointment of Mr Young, who is listed in the 1981 Who's Who as director of the Centre for Policy Studies from 1979, was hardly a portent of a bright future for the commission.

A spokesman for the Department of Employment group of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, which represents staff in the MSC, said: "Sir Richard has clearly been too outspoken about the unemployment crisis and about government cuts in training and services for the unemployed. The Government obviously resents him having spoken the truth and prefers to have a yes-man running the MSC."

Some people were also unhappy that there had been no consultation on the appointment and that Sir Richard's age—he will be 62 next week—was being cited as one reason for his replacement by Mr Young, who is 49.

Mr Young, a solicitor, has been an executive with Great Universal Stores and chairman of a property company. He was appointed an industrial adviser at the Department of Industry in 1979 and is special adviser to Mr Patrick Jenkin, the present Secretary of State for Industry.



Mr David Young: Solicitor and businessman

Smoking ban hotel banished by RAC

By Annabel Ferriman

A hotel has been refused a listing in the Royal Automobile Club's hotel guide because it caters only for non-smokers.

The RAC, which lists hotels refusing to take dogs or children, says it cannot accept non-smoking hotels because many of its members smoke.

The Automobile Association objected to the hotel partly because it refused admission to smokers but also because it served only wholefoods—meat, fish, vegetables, egg and bread with no artificial colourings or preservatives.

The AA have, however, relented and agreed to inspect it because its third objection, that the hotel had fewer than 12 rooms, had not stopped it listing two other hotels in the same town.

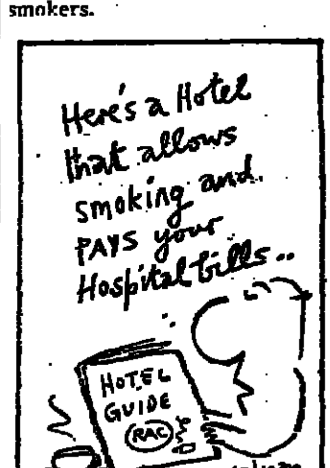
The Leahyrst Private Hotel in Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex, has been owned and run since October by Mr Arthur Hoffman, an accountant, and his wife, Janet, a trained nurse.

Mrs Hoffman worked as a night sister at the Royal Marsden Hospital, Surrey, one of Britain's leading cancer hospitals, and her experiences as a nurse made her a convinced non-smoker.

She persuaded her husband when they married to give up his 60 cigarettes a day which he had been smoking for 40 years, and both of them strongly dislike the smell of smoke.

Mr Hoffman is incensed by the attitude of the RAC. "They are discriminating against every non-smoker in the country. Up to now, men and women have had to put up with someone next to them puffing pipes and cigars. Now they have the chance of not having to do so, but the RAC will not hear about us."

The RAC's letter says: "The report indicates that Leahyrst Hotel meets all our requirements for listing apart from the restriction on the acceptance of guests who are smokers.



"The Royal Automobile Club cannot accept a hotel for listing or appointment which allows only non-smokers as guests as this would preclude its use by many of our members who are smokers."

A spokesman said yesterday that the RAC could not include the hotel because it did not have a symbol which denoted a non-smoking hotel.

Britain now has at least 15 non-smoking hotels, according to the anti-smoking group Action on Smoking and Health (Ash), some with such uncompromising names as the Haven for Non-Smokers (Newquay, Cornwall) and the Non-smokers Guest House (Keswick, Cumbria).

There are at least four public houses with no-smoking rules, including one opened in Enfield, north London, in September, 1980, by Sir George Young, former Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, who was keen to promote the cause of non-smokers.

Others are situated at Andover, Hampshire, Rochdale, Lancashire, and Appletreewick, Yorkshire.

The Good Food Guide, which appears in March, will have a three-page section on restaurants which discourage smoking and the British Tourist Authority has symbols for restaurants with no-smoking areas.

A spokesman for Ash said: "The RAC should create an easily recognizable symbol to use in its guidebook rather than claim it has no symbol and so cannot list the guest house.

"Now that a majority of adults in the United Kingdom no longer smoke cigarettes, organizations like the RAC should respond to this change appropriately.

"The AA has done so. Two insurance companies, Sun Life and Guardian Royal Exchange, both have life insurance schemes with preferential premiums for non-smokers; these were initiated by the AA's insurance brokers."

To non-smokers the RAC's policy does seem inconsistent. Perhaps it subscribes to the W. C. Fields sentiment: "Any hotel that hates dogs and children cannot be all bad".

Kagan back

Lord Kagan, the founder and chairman of Gannex-Kagan Textiles, who recently completed a prison sentence, signed the roll and took his seat again in the House of Lords yesterday

Tougher powers on local education urged by MPs

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The Education Act 1944 should be amended to give the Secretary of State clear powers to intervene where a local authority appears to be failing to provide a nationally agreed, guaranteed basic level of educational provision, the Commons Select Committee for Education, Science and the Arts says in its report on secondary school curriculum and examinations.

The report, due to be published on February 16, points out that at present there is no definition of the basic statutory provision that a local authority must make in order to comply with its duty, under Section 8 of the Act, to offer sufficient free education, suited to their age, ability and aptitudes, for all children of school age in its area.

The Secretary of State already had powers under Sections 68 and 99 of the Act to give directions to local authorities where he was satisfied that they had acted "unreasonably" in respect of a power or duty, or where they were defaulting on any duty, the report says.

However, the Department of Education and Science seemed to view those sections as dangerously punitive measures, difficult to enforce in the courts, and able to be used only in the last resort.

But the committee says: "We see, rather, these sections of the 1944 Act as being part of the means by which the Secretary of State may discharge his duty 'to promote the education of the people' in the words of Section 1 of the Act. We also believe that these provisions in the Act were designed precisely to avoid the necessity of parents taking their problems to the courts."

The committee does not believe the department's interpretations of the Act are correct. But, to avoid any doubt, it recommends the Act should be amended in such a way to give the Secretary of State clear powers to intervene when a nationally agreed provision appears to be at risk.

The committee believes that the HM Inspectorate for Schools should decide when the education provided by a local authority is inadequate, and that the onus should be on the Secretary of State to say why he does not accept the validity of such judgments in respect of his own responsibilities under the Act.

It recommends that legislation be introduced to put the Secretary of State's responsibility for the curriculum on that basis.

The committee also calls for HMI to be made much more independent of central government. To that end, it recommends that financial provision for it should be taken out of the Department of Education and Science budget and made the responsibility of the senior chief inspector; and that the decision as to whether or not any report by HMI on national levels of provision and quality should be published should rest with the senior chief inspector, and not with the Secretary of State as at present.

The Government announced in the Commons on Wednesday that it had decided to publish HMI's latest report on the effect of the cuts in local authority spending on educational provision. The report is expected to be ready in the next few weeks.

The allparty committee, chaired by Mr Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewishham, West, said it had resisted the temptation, urged on it by some witnesses, to regard financial provision as the root of most of the difficulties facing schools. Difficulties were also caused by the falling number of pupils and unsuitably qualified teachers.

Turning to the loss of teaching jobs that will occur over the next few years, the committee echoes Sir Keith Joseph's words, later withdrawn, when it says that the contraction should be achieved as far as possible by getting rid of the "less effective" teachers.

It calls on the Government in conjunction with local authorities to draw up national criteria to enable authorities to "identify individual teachers for redunancy on the grounds of their importance for preserving the curriculum and their effectiveness as teachers".



An Army bomb disposal expert showing the 1,000 lb bomb defused in the border village of Camlough, south Armagh. An aerial photograph behind him shows the area which would have been affected had it exploded.

Freedom to wed for step-parents sought

By George Clark

Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran, a Liberal peer, yesterday introduced a Bill in the Lords which would make it unnecessary for couples who stand in the relationship of step-parents and step-children to go through the expensive procedure of obtaining an Act of Parliament to authorize their marriage.

Two such applications for personal Bills are before the Lords and are due for examination by the Personal Bills Committee (chairman, Lord Aberdare) on February 16. In the past couples who have been compelled to apply for such Bills have said that it costs up to £1,000 each.

Bills are necessary because such marriages are debarred by what are known as the "prohibited degrees", deriving in ecclesiastical law from the Book of Leviticus, set out in the Marriage Act, 1949. The couples need a separate Act of Parliament to exempt them from the law.

Lord Lloyd, who is a barrister, has wide support for his proposed Bill which would enable couples to apply for leave to marry to the Family Division of the High Court or to any county court in the jurisdiction of which either party to the marriage resides.

Before granting leave to marry, the Bill states that the court would have to be satisfied on three counts: that neither party had by his or her conduct caused or contributed to the cause of a dissolution of any previous marriage of the other party; that at no time prior to the application had the parties lived together in a family during the minority of the stepchild; and that the intended marriage is for the welfare of the parties concerned.

The court would also have to take account of various circumstances, including the age of the parties, the income-earning capacity, property and other financial interests of the parties; the financial needs and obligations of the parties after marriage; and the physical or mental disability of either party.

A petition for another Bill that is to come before the Lords committee concerns a man's appeal to be declared the father of an illegitimate child, a boy aged 6. His claim has been the subject of previous legal proceedings.

Lord Harmar-Nicholls, a Conservative peer, said yesterday that there was a danger that personal Bills of this kind could be used to get publicity.

He said he would write to the Lords Procedure Committee and the authorities of the House to see if some safeguards could be introduced.

The purpose of the committee proceedings on February 16 is to decide whether the Bills should be allowed to proceed. Each Bill, if it goes ahead, will need a sponsor in both Houses.

Science report

Bent light discovery puzzles scientists

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Astronomers have discovered a third gravitational lens, a place in the universe in which light from a distant galaxy or other object is bent as it passes through a strong gravitational field. Scientists cannot understand why more have not been found.

Although the effect was predicted by Einstein in 1936, it was not observed until 1979. The latest discovery was made by Dr Daniel Weedman of Pennsylvania State University and Dr Ray Weymann of the University of Arizona. They identified the lens with the 3.6-metre telescope at the Mauna Kea observatory in Hawaii, and confirmed the existence of the phenomenon with the special 4-metre multiple mirror telescope at the Kitt Peak National Observatory, Arizona.

A gravitational lens is recognized by the curious image it leaves on a photographic plate recording observations of a small section of the sky. The image shows two distinct but identical objects extremely close together. Doctors Weedman and Weymann found such a pair of images after the camera on the telescope had taken a long exposure picture of two quasar objects with magnitudes of approximately 19.5 and 21.

A 21st magnitude star is about one million times fainter than that which can be seen unaided by the human eye; on a clear night the eye can see a star as faint as the sixth magnitude.

The explanation for the twin image is that before reaching an observer, the light from the quasar is split by some other massive object between it and the astronomer. The two light paths, passing through either side of the gravitational source, reaches the observer from two slightly different directions to give the impression that two objects exist.

In a report to the American Astronomical Society at the weekend, the astronomers express puzzlement. They say that the survey techniques used to discover this object have located over 1,000 quasars, and they would expect the effect of closely matched pairs to be found more often.

To prove conclusively that they have found a gravitational lens, a search is to be made for the material that is causing the gravitational deflection.

Rail strikes: What the pickets say

BR nearly broke

By Michael Baily, Transport Correpsondent

Intensification of the strike action by the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen next week is expected to worsen British Rail's cash outflow from about £18m to £20m. That leaves only another two weeks before British Rail runs over its short-term borrowing limit of £100m, and Government approval will be needed to extend it.

British Rail will be seeking a meeting with Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, to extend borrowing limits in order to pay wages and to keep the business going. The strike is estimated to have cost more than £70m in immediate cash so far or nearly £100m if longer term effects are taken into account.

Extending the cash limit puts the Cabinet in a difficult position. On the one hand it wants British Rail, in common with other nationalized industries, to stay within external finance limits; on the other it wants the board to face up to the productivity issue in a way that successive governments have been urging it to do for years. The latter view is confirmed by the almost complete isolation of Aslef at present.

In fact, the strike means that there is already no chance of British Rail hitting its 1981-82 external finance limit of £920m or its 1982-83 total of £950m.

The limit will therefore have to be eased either by additional grant or by allowing additional borrowing. However, the Government may insist on even tougher clawback measures once the dispute is over than were already envisaged by this year's very tight £950m cash limit.

One obvious early casualty could be electrification of the East Coast main line from London to Newcastle for which British Rail has successfully made a case under the "Walters formula", giving productivity improvements including flexible rostering.

There will also be increased pressure to shut down loss-making branch lines and cut back further on service levels in commuter and Inter-City passenger business.

Freight services could be affected also, although one of the heartening aspects of the dispute is the widespread assurances from British Rail's big freight customers that they want to stick it out and stay with rail. But the strikes have cost the freight business £18m already and will add up to £30m by the end of the year even if the dispute ends now, or £40m if it lasts another fortnight.

How rotas work in Europe

By Staff Reporters

With Italian drivers a great exception, worse even than Aslef, other European countries employ flexible rostering for train drivers, the system at the centre of the dispute between British Rail and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef).

A survey by *The Times* of four other European countries showed that France had the most flexible system with train drivers productively employed for between four and nine hours a day in a 39-hour working week.

If a driver works for five hours one day he may work 10 the next to compensate. Aslef has rejected a British Rail proposal for working between seven and nine hours a day in a 39-hour working week. Such a system would be no more efficient and could lead to loss of jobs, the union says.

In West Germany there is also flexible rostering, although drivers work on average eight hours a day, and in Switzerland train drivers spend about two thirds of their time at the controls or preparing their trains.

Although no average can be given for train drivers in Britain, it is not uncommon for a driver to spend half his eight-hour shift unproductively waiting for the next train.

British Rail maintains that flexible rostering would be a step towards improving productivity. The following is an outline of the work pattern for drivers:

Britain: Basic working week of 40 hours, although that would be reduced to 39 if flexible rostering is accepted. Drivers work on average four hours' overtime a week for a pay packet of £140. It is hard to estimate how much of an eight-hour shift is spent productively, but it is anywhere between three and six hours on average. There are two unions for rail drivers with about 97 per cent of the 26,000 drivers members of Aslef.

France: 39-hour working week since last Monday. Drivers work no overtime on principle because extra hours on duty compensated with time off. The only exception is eight-hour night shift. Rosters are usually worked out four to six months in advance to allow long-term planning of timetables. In theory efficient rostering means the driver is busy most of his shift.

West Germany: 40-hour working week. The maximum is 55 hours and that would be compensated with time off in other weeks. Most drivers work an eight-hour day with a maximum of 12 hours. Drivers belong to three unions. Trains which travel at speeds exceeding 140kph have two drivers. Otherwise one man in cab.

Switzerland: 44-hour working week. There is very little overtime, except in exceptional circumstances. If a driver works more than 10 hours a day he is compensated with time off and extra pay. The maximum overtime for which there is payment is 150 hours a year. Drivers spend about two-thirds of their time productively.

Italy: The railway workers' union makes no secret of low comparative productivity. All railway workers are supposed to work a 40-hour week. An engine driver's average week, however, is under 30 hours because of difficulty in organizing shifts. Limitations include a ban on two consecutive night shifts and a limit of four and a half hours at the controls for a single journey and eight and three-quarter hours for a return journey. Overtime for train drivers is comparatively rare. An engine driver spends an average of two hours a day at the controls.

Moderates: Confident of victory

From Paul Routledge
Labour Editor,
Aylesbury

The quiet footplatemen of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, spoke in defence of their picketing that frustrated British Rail's second attempt to run passenger services to London during yesterday's rail strike.

Still blinking in the concentrated glare of media attention focused on one of the least militant branches of the Associated Society of Locomtive Engineers and Firemen, they insisted that they would win the drawn-out dispute over flexible rostering.

It is clearly this issue that has brought out the 21 men at Aylesbury, rather than British Rail's refusal to pay a 3 per cent wage rise.

Until this dispute, these Aslef members were, if anything, notorious for their moderation rather than their willingness to take industrial action. They were rebuked by union head office for refusing to join in the TUC "day of action" on May 1, 1980.

Mr Roy Norris, aged 54, a chubby, talkative driver, argued: "I am 100 per cent behind the union on this issue. If they were calling a purely political strike, I would be at work. But this has to do with us. We are the losers."

His colleague, Mr Ernie Little, aged 47, said: "There is no money here; even management admitted that two years ago."

Mr Alf Bryant, branch secretary for the last decade, aged 45, was the picket whose "don't cross" request sent a National Union of Railwaymen driver home on Wednesday, when British Rail first tried to introduce a service on an Aslef strike day. He was back on the picket line yesterday, when three of the four NUR drivers were "too ill" to report for duty. By lunchtime, British Rail abandoned its plans to run five commuter services to and from Marylebone.

Mr Bryant insisted that any ballot of his branch would unanimously reject the flexible rostering proposals. "Even management admit it would not work at this depot—not with the type of service we operate. And they already have flexible rostering, and can diagram us for 8 hours and 55 minutes. They can get more out of us if they increase the number of trains."

Train driving from Aylesbury is not the biggest money spinner in the British Rail network. The Aslef branch secretary lives in a council house in Tring, six miles away. His recent pay slips show a maximum take home wage of £139 a week, when extra overtime was available. For a "normal" 48-hour week, including Sunday work, he earns £91 net, and for a flat 40 hours it falls to £78 net.

Mr Norris admits: "We do not like this sort of business really. It is not doing us any good. It is a pity that they cannot sit down and agree something—because that is how it will end." He is fairly confident that the dispute will be determined in Aslef's favour. "The railway will have to give in", he said.

The Aylesbury drivers harbour no serious misgivings about the way the Aslef leadership is conducting the dispute, and responded readily to the call to put an official picket outside Aylesbury station when the strike-breaking train service plan was first mooted.

"This is a closed shop", Mr Norris said. "If the union calls a strike, there is no option. We have to come out."

The three drivers who agreed to talk to *The Times* yesterday all thought there was something more to British Rail's productivity proposals than the existing package of change and they believed that the management would eventually seek split shifts—"making us come to work twice a day for one day's pay".

Pinned up in the drivers' signing-on office on the platform at Aylesbury is a copy of the NUR union journal which details two votes of "no confidence" in the union's general secretary, Mr Sidney Weighell by branches at Stockport and Gravesend. The drivers said yesterday that many of the guards were unhappy about the agreement on changes in working patterns agreed on their behalf by NUR leaders.

The men insisted they were already flexible in their attitude to work. "We book on at any minute of the day or night, as we are required by management", Mr Little said. "All they do is give us eight hours work. And this is what we are prepared to do."

Marylebone yesterday as BR's plan to run strike-breaking trains failed again.

Militants: Prefer all out strike

From Ronald Kershaw
Doncaster

The 340 members of the Doncaster branch of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen never wanted the kind of strike in which they are now taking part. They rarely do things by half in Doncaster and they wanted a full-blooded strike which, they claim, would have ended the dispute a few weeks ago. They are prepared to embark on an all out strike tomorrow if necessary.

Any impression that Doncaster is a hotbed of Trotskyism with young hotheads tearing round distributing militant literature, should be dispelled at once. The men I spoke to on the picket line at Doncaster railway station were in their forties and fifties, greying, rather tranquil people, the kind of men one is glad to have at the controls of one's express train. Among them one detected a quiet confidence that they were right, the British Railways Board was wrong and a grim determination to prove their point.

They only wanted an all out strike because it would have meant a short dispute causing least pain to employees, passengers and industry and told their national executive so in a resolution at the outbreak of hostilities.

They gather daily, covering each 24 hours in what is a token picket. Only two footplatemen at Doncaster are in the National Union of Railwaymen and they do not try to cross the picket line. The men started picketing in front of the station main entrance but have been moved twice because of complaints about their brazier which they believe are management inspired. At their third location, surrounded by five feet high rubbish bins, 50 yards from the station entrance, they discuss the latest moves in the dispute, joke among themselves and drink tea provided by NUR colleagues.

From time to time people stop to hand over money in support of the strike. In common with most trade unionists in dispute the Doncaster men are shy about giving their names. One grey-haired man said: "I would have preferred strong action from the outset but I suppose you have to consider the younger end who have mortgages and other financial commitments."

Another said: "The feeling of most men is that they would rather do without the 3 per cent than accept flexible rostering. We have had no complaints from the membership about the strike. They are with it to the end."

Another said: "I do not think the public really knows what this dispute is about. We have people constantly coming to us asking exactly this...

"Even under the existing system we can have arranged to take the wife out knowing we were off duty at 8 pm and when we come off, we discover we are on duty again from 2 am next day to 10 am. The wife is sitting there waiting to be taken out."

One man tried to explain the complicated business of days in lieu. "Take Good Friday. They would owe us a day in lieu of the bank holiday, but under their new flexible rostering system we would only be owed six hours and that is one reason why we want to maintain the guaranteed day."

The men were aggrieved by the allegations of fiddling made by two young members of Aslef last week. One said: "They have obviously had a bit of something going on down South but it does not apply at Doncaster. The trouble is they get a tarbrush and paint everybody the same from one end of the country to the other."

In the Doncaster area there are many "merrygoround" trains feeding power stations with coal. One picket said: "If they are going to alter them so we can run on a seven-hour diagram I should like to see it. They will not do it. It is not possible because trains never run the same two days together."

What then is the answer? To get rid of inefficient management? "Now you are getting nearer to it", one said.

The subsequent denigration of management was interrupted by one of the pickets who suggested: "If they are not careful there will be no drivers left. There were 90,000 in 1955. There are now 24,000 and they say any settlement will cost another 4,500 drivers. Who is going to run all these trains?"

The last word went to Mr David Court, Doncaster branch secretary of Aslef: "I have never known the men more determined. The members are 100 per cent behind the strike. It is a pity because nobody likes kicking the public in the teeth but we have no alternative in this dispute. The railways board has brought this on itself."

Livingstone wants to end truce

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

The Labour Party's uneasy peace was jolted sharply yesterday with a demand from the far-left that the Bishop's Stortford truce should be repudiated.

Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council, and Mr Ted Knight, leader of Lambeth council, in a front-page statement in *Labour Herald*, of which they are editors, said the Bishop's Stortford pact was justifiably worrying the party's rank and file and had added to confusion among the left.

"Whatever agreement was reached there it has no authority or validity in the movement... There can be no compromise with the right-wing on questions of policy or the witch-hunts which were started by the leadership last year."

Behind the attack is the far-left's anger at Mr Michael Foot, the Shadow Cabinet and Labour MPs for their reluctance to give outright support to the train drivers in dispute with British Rail.

Although Labour's national executive committee passed a resolution last week backing the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, the Parliamentary Labour Party agreed with a shadow cabinet proposal not to press for a debate, a decision which the newspaper described in a leading article as extraordinary.

"As the parliamentary representatives of our party, the PLP should have considered it their duty to use their position to make party policy known to the House and to the public at large."

After seeing a copy of *Labour Herald* yesterday, Mr Foot said he regarded its call for repudication of the truce as unrepresentative. The full endorsement of the agreement by the NEC last week was far more significant, he said. He was still convinced that a Commons debate would not help to settle the rail dispute.

In their statement Mr Livingstone and Mr Knight said that Labour must take sides with every struggle against the Government. It must stand alongside the train drivers and the men striking against redundancy at Bathgate and BL.

☐ Mr Kevin McNamara, Labour MP for Kingston upon Hull, Central, was appointed to the Opposition Front Bench yesterday as a defence and disarmament spokesman under Mr John Silkin (our Political Staff writes). He replaces Mr Peter Snape who moves to the Home Affairs team under Mr Roy Hattersley, in place of Mr George Cunningham, who sits as an independent after resigning the Labour whip last year.

State homes project for elderly

By Our Parliamentary Correspondent

The first experiment in State-run nursing homes for the elderly was announced yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, as part of a new initiative to move old people out of long-stay geriatric wards into small local units so that they can be close to family and friends.

As a start, three homes will be established, at Fleetwood, Portsmouth and Sheffield, at a cost of £1.1m with an annual running cost of £720,000. Two of the homes will open in the next 18 months and the third shortly afterwards.

Each home is expected to house about 30 old people and will be run as part of the National Health Service. They will be financed jointly by the health authorities and the Department of Health.

The experimental homes are part of a package of more Government help for the elderly. Other proposals include a new registration system for voluntary and private homes, which it is estimated now house about 56,000 people. Mr Fowler told the Commons yesterday during a debate on pensioners that there was a need to ensure that the care provided in these homes kept pace with the needs of the residents, and the overall pattern of services for old people.

A consultative document would be proposing a code of practice which local authorities might apply to encourage improvement in conditions.

Mr Fowler also announced increased grants to voluntary organizations helping the elderly. Already £300,000 had ben allocated this year, and there would now be an additional £100,000 to organizations, such as Age Concern, the Centre for Policy on Ageing, Contact, which provided companionship for elderly housebound people, and to the Employment Fellowship.

Two other proposals announced by Mr Fowler were arrangements to improve financial and policy accountability in the NHS and additional resources of £10m, planned for next year, for joint financing of various projects by the NHS and voluntary organizations.

Parliamentary report, page 6
Frank Johnson, back page

END OF LINE FOR DREADNOUGHT

HMS Dreadnought, Britain's oldest nuclear-powered submarine will be taken out of service later this year after 19 years with the fleet (Henry Stanhope writes).

The 4,000-ton submarine is at Chatham dockyard for work on its nuclear reactor's cooling system.

Journalists in jobs plea

By Our Labour Staff

The National Union of Journalists has asked Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, to investigate whether Times Newspapers was in breach of employment protection legislation in its plans to reduce the editorial staffs of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

Mr Kenneth Ashton, general secretary, has written to the minister claiming that the company did not inform the union of the impending cuts of 35 journalists' jobs on the two newspapers, which it believes could be a breach of the Employment Protection Act, 1975.

A spokesman for the company said Mr Gerald Long, managing director of TNL, would be replying to a letter he had received from Mr Ashton, after taking advice on various legal questions. He said the company was not involved in a redundancy programme for journalists but the editors of the two newspapers had been asked to assess their staffing needs.

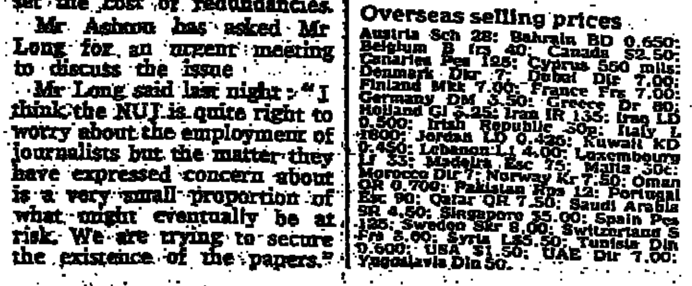
The company did not believe it had an obligation to consult the union because there was no redundancy programme in effect. On *The Sunday Times* where 10 journalists are to leave, voluntary severance had been agreed with the editor, the spokesman said.

The union has also asked Mr Tebbit if he was informed of what it sees as planned redundancies because NUJ officials believe that the Act requires companies to give the minister 30 days' notice of redundancies involving ten or more people.

One of the sanctions available to Mr Tebbit, if there have been breaches of the relevant sections of the Act, would be to reduce by 10 per cent the company's rebate from the Redundancy Payment Fund which helps companies to offset the cost of redundancies.

Mr Ashton has asked Mr Long for an urgent meeting to discuss the issue.

Mr Long said last night: "I think the NUJ is quite right to worry about the employment of journalists but the matter they have expressed concern about is a very small proportion of what might eventually be at risk. We are trying to secure the existence of the papers."



CHANGING WITH 'THE TIMES'

By Craig Seton

The Western Daily Press, the regional morning newspaper of the West country, was formally banished from the shelf of Avon's 57 branch libraries yesterday and replaced by... *The Times*.

The Labour-controlled county council voted by 37 to 28 to order *The Times* instead, at an additional cost each year of more than £1,000, ignoring allegations from the regional newspaper that the move would be "cheap political spite—a cowardly way of avoiding criticism".

In a leading article, *The Western Daily Press*, which sells 20,000 copies in Avon, admitted that it was a regular critic of the Labour authority but said that *The Times*, whatever its merits, did not provide a local service of sport, news, advertising or regional comment.

The community leisure committee which recommended that the full council replace *The Western Daily Press*, said that *The Times* contained a great deal of "factual information and rational reporting", and its provision was the best way to broaden the scope of information available to the Avon public.

QUICK CHANGES AT TOP OF BBC

The BBCs top jobs switch announced last month will be completed soon after Easter, Sir Ian Trethowan, director-general, said yesterday. Mr Bill Cotton, deputy managing director, television, becomes immediately director of development and joins the board of management.

From April 13, Mr Alasdair Milne, director-general designate, moves to Broadcasting House from the Television Centre. Mr Richard Francis (managing director, radio), Mr Aubrey Singer (managing director, television), Mr Alan Protheroe (assistant director-general) and Mr Michael Checkland (director of resources, television) take up their new posts on the same date.

CORRECTION

Derek Dougan was a Northern Ireland not a Scottish football international, as stated in a report yesterday.

Overseas selling prices

Austria Sch 28; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 40; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 80; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran IR 135; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Republic 50p; Italy L 1800; Jordan ID 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 33; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 90; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 4.50; Singapore $5.00; Spain Pes 125; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria L£5.50; Tunisia Din 0.600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 50.

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Union clash with charity over mental patients

By Lucy Hodges

A dispute flared yesterday between a nurses' union and MIND, the mental health charity, over a case to be heard in Strasbourg today in which the Government again stands accused of denying rights to mental patients.

The Confederation of Health Service Employees (Cohse), which represents hundreds of psychiatric nurses, yesterday accused MIND of making serious errors in the publicity material it issued about the case.

Mr Albert Spanswick, the union's general secretary, challenged the charity to retract its statements "otherwise the quality of their entire evidence in support of their case must be open to serious doubt".

The case, which will be heard by the European Commission of Human Rights, concerns the right of mental patients to sue doctors and nurses over detention, brutality or, indeed, anything. At present they are prevented by law from doing so unless they can show that a person acted in bad faith and without reasonable care, and unless they can get the permission of a High Court judge.

MIND hopes to change that. Cohse, the union, however, believes that staff must be protected from violent patients and that Section 141 of the Mental Health Act should not be weakened.

The Government seems to agree with the union and has resisted strong pressure from the charity, which campaigns for patients' rights, to change the law in amending legislation going through Parliament.

Today's case concerns Mr John Ashingdane, a patient who was kept in Broadmoor special hospital for two extra years because local Cohse branches were refusing or threatening to refuse to nurse patients subject to restriction orders.

They did that because Oakwood hospital, in Kent, to which Mr Ashindane was to be transferred, was short of 50 nurses. However, Mr Ashingdane's doctors said he should not be in Broadmoor so MIND decided to sue.

Because of Section 141 his lawyers were prevented from taking legal action against the Kent Area Health Authority and the Department of Health and Social Security. The case was eventually settled out of court, with the union agreeing to let him in on condition that resources were increased and that he was put in a locked ward.

However, the case against the Government went ahead to Strasbourg, where MIND will be arguing that the United Kingdom is in breach of the European Convention on Human Rights.

The union is objecting to the claim by MIND that the union was operating "a total ban" on the transfer of special hospital patients to local hospitals. Mr Spanswick said yesterday there was never a national ban, simply advice to the effect that when a patient constituted a danger to himself and others because of a lack of resources members should refuse to nurse.

"MIND cannot understand the concern of staff over the possible consequences of admission of patients without sufficient facilities", he said. "In 1980 my union took 126 cases of horrifying violence inflicted upon staff to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board."

Mr Simon Hebditch, an assistant director of MIND, said the union was splitting hairs. "We have always acknowledged the difficult conditions in which nurses work and the effects of understaffing, which was precisely why we took action against the area health authority and the department, and not the union."

Hospital tries the Star Trek technique

From Pearce Wright Science Editor, Oxford

Followers of television's *Star Trek* programme are used to seeing the doctor on the spaceship Enterprise instantly diagnosing some mysterious disease, by discovering a deficiency or excess of the body's chemistry from a hand-held microcomputer with which he scans the patient.

That idea has moved from fiction into fact with the development of a machine which can identify the imbalance of biochemicals in the body without exploratory surgery, blood analysis or, indeed without touching the patient at all.

The apparatus being tested at the Radcliffe hospital, Oxford, weighs ten hundredweight, yet it measures incredibly tiny magnetic fields of individual atoms within separate cells of a particular organ in the body.

Within a minute the Topical Magnetic Resonant machine produces a biochemical assay that is obtained now only from analysing a tissue specimen in a laboratory.

The device is a long way from providing the instant total body chemistry picture achieved in fiction. But it is revealing deficiencies in the tissues of patients suffering from various muscle diseases and provides information to control the treatment of kidney failures, diabetis and thyroid deficiencies.

A more powerful version will be ready by the end of the year to allow examinations of the brain.

They unravelled the structure and function of chemicals involved in different processes at work in parts of the body.

The present machine in clinical use cost about £250,000 and the larger version, for scanning the whole body, about £350,000. The equipment is made by the Oxford Instrument Company.



Peter Jay, chairman of TV/AM which will provide the independent television breakfast service from early 1983, with a model of the studios on the site near the Regent's Canal at Camden Town, London, yesterday.

Murray's pensions plea

By Lorna Bourke

Pension fund managers should invest more money in British industries, Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said at a pensions conference yesterday.

"The nation's pension funds must bear at least part of the blame for the most rapid period of de-industrialization in Britain's history", he said. "Since abolition of exchange controls in October 1979 there has been a flood of overseas investment by the major financial institutions. Between 1978 and the first half of 1979, pension funds more than trebled the proportion of their available cash flow invested abroad." The money is helping Britain's competitors build further on their advantages.

"Pension scheme members, employers, pensioners and indeed the funds themselves have a common interest in reviving the British economy," he said.

The Tebbit Bill

TUC battle lines in disarray

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

One simple test must be applied to the trade union leaders on all sides of the labour movement who have exploded so belligerently about the Government's latest employment-law reforms: can they provide effective opposition?

It is the Cabinet's calculated gamble that they cannot, and that both Mr James Prior's 1980 Employment Act and Mr Norman Tebbit's Bill now embarking on its parliamentary passage will remain on the statute book.

The assumption has so far paid off. The changes have not wrought havoc on the scale of the ill-fated 1971 Industrial Relations Act. There are two main reasons for this: the recession has done most of the work that might otherwise have been entrusted to the lawyers; and the legislation did not offer such a handy lever for opposition as state registration of the unions did under the Heath laws.

The TUC has organized a successful boycott of state funds for secret ballots on industrial action and the election of union leaders. But it has failed to generate any tangible or widespread sense of grievance on the shop floor.

Mr Tebbit's latest set of proposals brought forth a predictable tirade of abuse but few practical proposals to prevent their application. The TUC seeks an extended boycott to take in the suggestion that there should be periodic testing of employees opinion on existing closed shops and Government-funded ballots on wage offers.

It seems likely that it will succeed in holding the line on this form of non cooperation; the TUC carthorse is never more successful than when dragging its feet for a purpose. But on the wider political and economic front, the TUC's show of unity is a shaky facade, and it crumbled when put to the test last week.

The mighty Transport and General Workers wants the trade union movement to pull out of the National Economic Development Council and the other myriad tripartite bodies on which TUC representatives sit down with the Government and employers. When the report of the TUC Employment Policy Committee retaining this option went to the full general council five days ago, there was a scene when Mr Len Murray, the general secretary, described pulling out of "Neddy" as irrelevant. Mr Bill Keys, chairman of the committee and leader of the print union Sogat (which has a track record of political strikes against Conservative labour legislation) demurred and insisted on it going into policy pot.

This political response will now be considered, along with various proposals for "national" strikes, when the TUC Employment Committee reconvenes on February 18 to discuss what industrial action may be called in the event of a group of workers coming under threat from the Tebbit laws. The view of Mr David Basnett's General and Municipal Workers' Union and some others is that stoppages should be called right across an industry in response to such "attacks." They want the TUC to have some coordination responsibility in calling such disputes. Congress House staff are unhappy at this prospect, arguing that TUC central funds could be put at risk.

There is also an organizational consideration. It would probably not be beyond the bounds of rank-and-file militancy for the TGWU to deliver a national dock strike if there is any repetition of cases such as the jailing of the "Pentonville Five" dockers in 1972 for contempt of previous Tory legislation and its institutions. A stoppage of train drivers, or miners, or steel process workers or printworkers may also be envisaged in such circumstances.

But quite apart from the under-unionized sectors such as white-collar employment, could Mr Terry Duffy, president of the engineering workers, deliver his members, as he appeared to threaten in Sunday's *Weekend World* programme. To be sure, it was the left-wing-led engineering union, the AUEW, that led the battle against the 1971 Act, but it is less than a year since the union's existing moderate leadership was leaning on delegates to the annual policy making conference to accept state money for the engineers' election ballots in defiance of the TUC's first and most critical boycott.

Had those lay delegates followed the advice of their leaders (they did not) the floodgates would have opened for widespread defiance of the Congress antagonism against Mr Prior's legislation. It therefore requires a major effort of imagination to fit the engineering workers into the hardline posture of the left.

Behind the televised lineup of union rhetoric lies a certainty of purpose overlaid by an uncertainty over strategy. As old-fashioned custodians of their members' subscriptions, union leaders know what they want to do but cannot yet agree how to do it. It is unlikely that they will be able to respond coherently until the crisis erupts in an industry where they have a strength of organization equal to the threat to their funds.

Mr Murray has laid down: "We don't set out wantonly and deliberately to break the law. But if the law prevents trade unionists from exercising their proper functions; they will say 'I cannot live with this law' and we shall take the consequences that flow from that." The transport workers go further, arguing that "some form of industrial action would be efective". So far, it is jaw-jaw. It will be next winter before the TUC barons at present leading with their mouth can follow with their members.

Milk banks for babies defended

From Our Correspondent Oxford

A leading consultant in child medicine has rejected allegations that premature babies may die if they are fed from breast-milk banks.

Claims were made in *The Lancet*, that milk given by mothers and stored in milk banks could cause fatal infections if given to very small babies.

Dr David Baum is a honorary consultant in paediatrics at the Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, where he relies on the hospital's own milk bank to feed hundreds of premature babies each year.

Dr Baum, who was appointed by Oxford University to specialize and research in child medicine, rejects the allegations about breast milk banks, which appeared in a letter to *The Lancet* from Dr Herbert Barrie, a consultant paediatrician at the Charing Cross Hospital, London.

Dr Barrie likened instances of giving babies other mother's milk to giving blood transfusions. He claims that some babies may be incompatible to different milk.

Dr Baum replies: "This comparison is particularly unfortunate.

He says that "Dr Barrie has not helped the progression towards a sounder basis in the care of low-birth rate infants."

Motorway protest appeal fails

By Frances Gibb

An attempt to force the Secretary of State for Transport to order a fresh inquiry into orders and schemes approved for the M25 motorway between Wisley and Leatherhead, failed in the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Dismissing appeals by two local objectors, Mr Reginald Mayes and Mr John Earl, both of Ashtead, Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, said he had great sympathy for them but their case was not well-founded in law.

The objectors claimed that a public inquiry in 1978 into side-road orders and compulsory purchase orders for the land needed was a "complete procedural mess-up".

They appealed against the dismissal of a previous application by Mr Mayes, a chartered electrical engineer and chairman of the Leatherhead-Ashtead Motorway Protest Group, by Mr Justice Hodgson last July.

Mr R. A. Sears, QC, for the protestors, argued that the judge had erred in law in not holding that there had been a breach of natural justice by the inspector's refusal to hear evidence and admissions about the line of the motorway between Wisley and Leatherhead or on exhaust pollution.

Giving judgement, Lord Denning said that local people felt that the M25 section between Ashtead and Leatherhead would diminish or destroy the amenities

There had been a good deal of upset and disturbance when the public inquiry into the side road orders opened in May, 1978, and the inspector had been unable to proceed with the inquiry, he said.

The inspector sought guidance from Mr William Rodgers, then Secretary of State for Transport, who said a reconsideration of the route was unnecessary. The inspector then said he would hear evidence only on the issue which had arisen since June, 1978. It was that decision which was the subject of the appeal.

Lord Denning said the minister was entitled not to consider such objections and could tell the inspector beforehand that he was not going to do so.

He cited the case brought by Miss Lesley Lovelock against the North-east section of the motorway two years ago.

"I would adhere to what I said then ... the main question is whether Miss Lovelock was entitled to open the second inquiry for the objection she made at the first inquiry. It seems to me", Lord Denning said, "that if a matter has been canvassed at a first inquiry the inspector would be quite entitled to rule that we can't go into that again. It seems that that applies in our particular case."

TV debate could decide result

From Richard Ford, Dublin

IRISH ELECTION

The result of the Irish General election could hinge on a "presidential" style television debate between the party leaders, which is planned to be broadcast two days before polling day.

With less than two weeks before polling, and with all three parties just beginning their campaigns, there are clear indications that the runaway victory predicted for Fianna Fail may not materialize.

Early canvassing returns suggest that a considerable number of the nation's 2.2 million electorate are "don't knows", and there are also indications that the image of Mr Charles Haughey, Leader of the Opposition, is not helping the Fianna Fail cause.

The latest opinion polls provide a boost for the Fine Gael — Labour coalition, as Dr Garret FitzGerald's personal popularity continues to increase and is seen by Fine Gaels strategists to be one of their great assets. The findings make gloomy reading for Mr Haughey, who is fighting for his political survival. Even before the election date was announced there were criticisms of his leadership.

In a survey of 306 farmers owning more than 30 acres of land conducted last Saturday, Dr FitzGerald's personal rating based on satisfaction with his performance, stood at 76 per cent, compared with 57 per cent at the general election last May. Mr Haughey's personal rating had fallen from 44 per cent to 22 per cent.

Paradoxically, 60 per cent of those polled thought Fianna Fail would form the next government, irrespective of their own preferences.

Fine Gael depends on the Labour Party maintaining its 15 seats. The prospects this time for Labour are looking increasingly bad as internal dissent continues to hamper their electoral effort.

Mr Brendan Halligan, Labour's former general secretary and one of the party's leading anti-coalitionists, who was to have run in Dublin seat, has decided not to stand. He is among those who are seriously dissatisfied with Mr Michael O'Leary, the party leader, and the way he handled the argument last week over whether the party should have a joint strategy with Fine Gael for the campaign.

The party's problems have also increased with the retirement from politics of two senior members, Mr Brendan Corish and Mr James Tully, the former Minister of Defence. In working-class constituencies, the harsh measures in the Budget have increased pressure on Labour candidates.

Faced with debts from last year's campaign, both Fianna Fail and Fine Gael are forgoing the balloons, stickers, and bands that marked the last campaign.

Fianna Fail is expected to spend about £1m on the campaign and Mr Haughey is using a helicopter. Fine Gael expect to spend £500,000, and Dr FitzGerald is using a campaign bus.

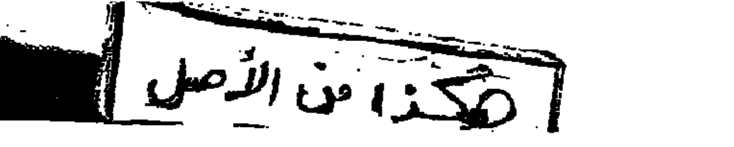
Public enquiry urged into boys homes

□ Pressure is growing in Northern Ireland for a public inquiry into why homosexual offences at boy's homes in Belfast went undetected for nearly 20 years (the Press Association reports).

A government committee of inquiry is due to start hearing evidence next Monday, but politicians and health officials are unhappy with the terms of reference. They want the case to be heard in public instead of behind closed doors, with legal representation for the witnesses.

The committee is headed by Mr Stephen McGonagle, a former Ombudsman for Northern Ireland. The inquiry, which comes after the imprisonent of five men in the city last December for sex offences at boys' homes, has been ordered by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

A team of detectives led by Mr John Whiteside, Assistant Chief Constable of the RUC, is continuing its own investigations into the affair.



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PARLIAMENT February 4 1982

£50m a year state grants to help immigrants

SCARMAN REPORT

It was wrong to suggest that special measures to promote equality of opportunity for minorities would give some people an unfair advantage over the rest of the community, Lord Belstead, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said in a debate on the Scarman report on the Brixton riots.

We are not (he said) dealing with reverse discrimination which would involve such matters as job quotas or, lowering standards of recruitment for certain occupations. What is needed is simply to ensure equality of opportunities.

He said that in the report there was no excuse for street crimes and mugging and no question of impeding the police in their task of dealing with crime. Lord Scarman had not hesitated to describe the disorders as riots.

The work of the police needed to be reinforced by the support of the community. The functions of the police remained the prevention of crime, protection of life and property, and the preservation of public tranquillity. To strike the right balance between these duties required great discretion on the part of each individual police officer in the diverse society of today.

There had been some progress in recruitment from ethnic minorities but further steps must be taken. They must ensure that applicants were not unconsciously discriminated against. New tests would be scrutinised independently before they were introduced.

The Home Office were discussing with the police and the Inner London Education Authority the possibility of providing suitable English courses for ethnic minority candidates. They were setting up a special study to see how ethnic minority recruitment could be improved.

The Home Office fully accepted the importance given to police training by Lord Scarman. The Police Training Council met on January 28 to decide how to tackle the report's recommendations and was to meet again in the autumn to review progress.

The Home Secretary (Mr William Whitelaw) had clearly endorsed the need for reform of the complaints procedure. The Commons Home Affairs Committee had begun an inquiry into complaints against the police and hoped to complete it by Easter. The Home Office would wish to take the report into account before proceeding further.

Keeping law and order was the responsibility of all and effective cooperation between police and public should surely have as its final objective the more effective prosecution of crime and the better protection of the public. A process of consultation about this had begun. It included a programme of visits by officials of the Home Office to study the informal consultation arrangements which existed in some areas and to discuss with police forces and police authorities how the liaison committees envisaged by Lord Scarman might function.

One of the problems the report identified was that of racial disadvantage. The Government was committed to ensuring full equality of opportunity for everyone in the country irrespective of race, colour or religion.

One way of achieving this, while assessing more accurately the extent of racial disadvantage, was by placing greater emphasis on monitoring the position of ethnic minority communities. They must have the information available if they were to take effective steps to try to remedy racial disadvantage.

One of the changes proposed was to grants payable to local authorities under section 11 of the Local Government Act 1966. When this provision was first introduced it was in the confident expectation that any disadvantage experienced by people newly arrived in Britain would be short lived, and that the need for a grant of this kind would diminish and eventually disappear.

We now know (he said) that this has not proved to be the case. We therefore decided to abolish the so-called 10-year rule under which grant is payable in relation only to those Commonwealth immigrants who have been here for less than 10 years.

Under the new arrangements it would be possible for the grant to be paid in respect of all first generation Commonwealth residents no matter how long their residence here, and the grant would be payable to their children.

The Government was providing more than £50m a year in grants under section 11, which was a great deal of money. It was also proposed that there should be a substantial increase in the urban programme allocation for the next financial year. It was to be increased from £210m to £270m.

Black businessmen sometimes experienced difficulties in seeking necessary financial projects. In discussions with the Department of Industry, the response of senior bankers had been constructive and encouraging, and should lead to some positive initiatives from the banks, and help black businessmen improve their skills in seeking finance, and forge strong business relationships with the banks.

Lord Elystan-Morgan, for the Opposition, said Lord Scarman had said racial disadvantage was a fact of current British life and a significant causation in the Brixton disorders.

It was a disease deeply embedded in the life of the community and like every serious disease it could not be cured by minor applications of ointments to the surface of the skin. It was endemic in the blood and bone and affected the whole of the constitution.

In the last two years the Government had withdrawn £500m to £600m from the inner cities by their changes in the rate support system. Was the Government prepared to cancel out that withdrawal, and from that baseline to consider what added finances it would channel to these most vulnerable areas?

There was a call for two basic conditions—an adequacy of finance and a fully coordinated approach to the problems.

Lord Scarman recommended that there should be a weeding out of would-be candedates to the police force who were thought or suspected to harbour deep racial prejudice, and this should be made a specific disiplinary offence.

Lord Wigoder, for the Liberals, said the police in future should be recruited in such a way that they represented to a substantial extent all sections of the


Runcie: People not peaceable

Wigoder: Careful training

community, including the ethnic minorities.

He would not be as hesitant as the Government or Lord Scarman in considering the case for some degree of reverse discrimination to ensure that ethnic minorities were adequately represented in the police.

This should not be done by a lowering of the necessary standards, but by engaging suitable applicants and training them carefully and specifically so that they could reach the necessary standards and thus become fully-fledged members of the force.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, said that he questioned the idea that violence, whenever it occurred, whether at Toxteth, Bristol or Brixton, could ever be simply explained in terms of bad economic and social conditions which could be improved by the appropriate injection of government will and finance.

Unemployment and bad housing certainly played a major part in fuelling discontent which erupted into riot and they could not be complacent about a situation in which 65 per cent of black youth in Brixton was unemployed or 12,000 households there were living in overcrowded conditions.

However, men and women were not naturally peaceable and law-abiding. No matter how good the communications, nor how restrained the police, force was alas sometimes inescapable.

We do not help the police in their difficult and sometimes dangerous work (he said) by pretending that if only certain procedures and reforms were adopted, the problem of violence would be painlessly solved.

There is a danger of the police sealing themselves off from open debate because of defensiveness and cynicism at critics who do not acknowledge that law enforcement must involve force and that police officers in the real world have to choose between evils on many occasions.

While they waited for the promised legislation on statutory liaison committees and complaints procedures, the coming months would be crucial for building confidence in the kind of consultation machinery the Government had in mind.

Whatever might be the pros and cons of reverse discrimination, special effort should be made to give deprived sections of the community, whether black or white, education and training opportunities to enable them to compete on an equal level with young poeple in more prosperous areas.

The churches were determined not to abandon the inner city and retreat to suburbia. In the light of the report they would be seeking ways of extending and consolidating Christian work in education, youth, and voluntary services as well as helping to change the maligned stereotype impressions which groups had of each other and challenging the mythologies which had been created.

The need for action at government and at local level was urgent.

Lord Long, for the SDP, said that piecemeal implementation of the recommendations of the report and rejection of others would not do, although he had reservations, particularly about the recommendations of the sanction of dismissal against a police officer for racially prejudiced behaviour.

He had received from the Bishop of Liverpool a quotation which the Bishop had received from community leaders in Liverpool 8: "We have always had bad housing and few jobs. We have learnt to put up with them, but please get the police off our backs."

He (Lord Hunt) had received similar statements from community leaders in Brixton. There was no doubt that minority feelings were running in that direction. It was essential, however, to remember the social, economic and criminal situations in which the police had to operatte in Brixton, Toxteth and other city areas.

Implementation of the report must be broad-based.

There was a need for urgent action on the Scarman report. They would court even greater disasters than occurred in Toxteth and Brixton if they did not heed that report now.

Lord Rawlinson of Ewell (C) said that despite the passages in the report on the efforts of the police and the difficulties they faced, he was left with the impression of under-assessment of the difficulties of the police and the justifiable anxiety of the majority of law abiding citizens.

The television authorities were motivated by a determination to entertain and sensationalize. The increase in violence in society was not a little due to the attitude of the television authorities on these matters.

There had been a deplorable decline in the quality and amount of news reporting, especially by the BBC. The reputation of it had been much reduced. Unless it was stopped it could lead to demands for the removal of the news from the control of the corporation and the vesting of it in a separate entity, as was done with independent television.

There was no right among ethnic minorities for changes in the rule of law of the host country. They must be prepared to change and to accept the laws and many of them did.

The report had dismissed the question of a new Riot Act. He hoped the Home Secretary would consider in greater depth than the Scarman report had the principle of "disperse or be arrested".

Firm and resolute leadership from the Home Office (he said) is needed and the strengthening not weakening of the police; and the demonstration of society's determination not to be overborne by those who do not like the law, do not keep it. Ministers should stand by the men and women in the first line of the defence of liberty. (Conservative cheers.)

Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:
Monday: Employment Bill, second reading.
Tuesday: Transport Bill, second reading.
Wednesday: Motions on Rate Support Grant (Scotland) Order and on the Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Order. Harbours (Scotland) Bill, second reading.
Thursday: Debate on an Opposition motion on overseas development.
Friday: Private Members' Bills: Cinematograph Bill, Garden Supplies (Sunday Trading) Bill; and Gaming (Amendment) Bill, second readings.

The main business in the House of Lords next week will be:
Monday: Antiquities Bill, second reading. Debate on report of the EEC committee in annual accounts of banks.
Tuesday: Shops Bill, second reading. Debate on personal savings and the housing market.
Wednesday: Debate on green paper, Alternatives to Domestic Rates.
Thursday: Deer (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, second reading.

Shortage of farms to rent

AGRICULTURE

The continuing decline of the tenanted sector of farming was a matter of concern, Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said. He added that he had received representations from a number of individuals and organizations, including the National Farmers' Union and Country Landowners' Association, and with his colleagues was considering what action should be taken in the future.

Mr Peter Temple-Morris (Leominster, C): The decline of the tenanted sector is potentially dangerous for the future. Will he make clear to the President of the NFU that he will press for legislation on this matter in the next session of Parliament and use his considerable talents to press vigorously in this direction?

Mr Walker: We will consider the proposals that have been made and have discussions with all concerned. It is important to try to get a situation in which there is a permanency of arrangements in the landlord-/tenant area which can give an opportunity for young farmers in future.

Mr Gavin Strange, an Opposition spokesman on food, agriculture and fisheries (Edinburgh, East, Lab): Although the Opposition cannot support proposals which would weaken the security of families of future tenant farmers, we are concerned about escalating farm rents.

Would he consider introducing an early piece of legislation to limit the increase of farm rents which are doing so much harm to agriculture?

Mr Walker: I hope he will consider the immense frustration of young potential farmers throughout the country because of the total lack of availability of rented farms. The sort of policy which says that we just want low rents and do not want any incentive for any landlord putting forward tenant farms in future is against the interests of young farmers.

Mr Peter Hardy (Rother Valley, Lab): While it might be desirable for the NFU and CLA to talk about tenancies, it might be useful if they and the Ministry talked seriously about the increasing scale of farming amalgamations.

Mr Walker: The two are closely connected. If when a farm becomes available to let it is taken into hand, it creates the very situation that he talks about. I have to try to find a fair and sensible system between both sides which is good for young farmers.

Overfishing by Danes is attacked

Reported over-fishing by Denmark was regarded by the British Government as utterly unsatisfactory Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said. The British Government had made its views plain to the European Commission.

The only settlement in negotiations for a common fisheries policy would be one acceptable to the fishing industry. Progress had been made on marketing, on conservation and on the Community's reciprocal fishing arrangements with certain third countries, including Norway. The next meeting of the council of fisheries ministers was expected to take place in March.

Mr Albert McQuarrie (East Aberdeenshire, C): Denmark has over-fished in the North Sea for herring by 10 times the quota, by 11,500 tonnes against 1,000 tonnes. What action will he take at the Council of Ministers meeting in March about this breach of the fishing regulations?

Mr Buchanan-Smith: The reported over-fishing by the Danes is something which we regard as deeply and utterly unsatisfactory. We are not waiting for the March meeting and have already made our views absolutely plain to the Commission.

This simply underlines the necessity of getting a common fisheries policy, with proper policing and proper control to prevent this kind of thing taking place.

We do not (he said later) want just any settlement. We want a settlement that is satisfactory. In the progress we have made on matters such as conservation and marketing we have managed to deal with a number of issues to the benefit of the British fishing industry. Let us hope we can get down to dealing constructively and satisfactorily with the remaining issues.

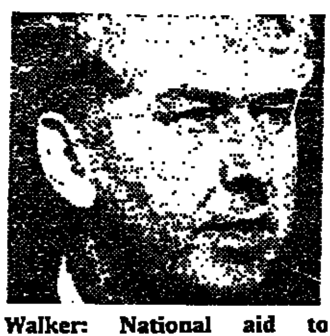
Dutch must wipe out advantage

Positive proposals from the Dutch Government on the elimination of unfair advantages for their horticulturists through oil/gas subsidies are expected at the next meeting of the EEC Council of Agriculture Ministers on February 15, Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food said.

Asked by **Mr Michael Latham** (Melton, C) what progress had been made on the issue, and facing criticisms from Conservative, Labour and Liberal MPs on the delay by the EEC, he said that at the last meeting of the Council of Ministers virtually all member states pressed the Dutch Government for an elimination of the gap between industrial and horticultural tariffs operating in Holland.

This matter is on the agenda (he said) for the meeting on February 15. I expect some positive proposals to be put and I hope the elimination of this unfair advantage to the Dutch growers.

Mr Latham: Since the real answer is that no progress has been made at all, and Mr Walker has had to introduce welcome national aids to prevent our growers being destroyed, will he make it plain to the Dutch that if they want to play it tough and rough so can we? (Cheers)


Walker: National aid to continue

Mr Walker: I have no doubt that if the Dutch Government do not come with firm proposals on February 15 on the matter, they as a government will immediately be taken to the European Court. That is a correct procedure to pursue.

We have introduced national aids in the interim and it is certainly my policy to see that until this matter is settled, these national aids continue.

Mr Geraint Howells (Cardigan, L): When does he expect British producers to compete on equal terms with the Dutch?

Mr Walker: I hope in the very near future. I inherited a situation where this gap already existed. No progress of any description had been made. If this gap is eliminated in the coming months, it will be a considerable and important progress.

Mr Mark Hughes, an opposition spokesman (Durham, Lab): This procrastination on Mr Walker's part and, on that of the EEC Commission is putting the British glasshouse industry at risk, and no aid which the Government has given — and welcome it is — can offset the damage done.

Mr Walker: There was procrastination by the previous Government, which did nothing about this issue and was lethargic. I am glad that in the near future some decisions will be taken.

Mr Michael Spicer (South Worcestershire, C): If he compares our fuel costs with those of the Dutch, ours are about three times theirs at the moment.

Mr Walker: Yes, that is why I believe and hope the Dutch Government, who are under considerable pressure not only from us but from other countries and the EEC, will on February 15 announce the basis on which they will eliminate this unfair competition.

Mr Thomas Torney (Bradford, south, Lab): Is he going to allow the procrastination of the Common Market to continue until our horticultural industry has gone the same way as fishing, ultimately disappearing? Will he not act unilaterally and save it?

Mr Walker: If, as I am fairly optimistic will happen, proposals are presented on February 15, I will welcome them. I have taken every action in giving national aids to the industry to support them in the meantime, and I will continue to do that.

Marginal land surveys are completed

The marginal land surveys in the United Kingdom have been completed and the Government is considering the case for extending the "less favoured areas" that might be submitted to the European Commission, Mrs Peggy Fenner, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food said.

The Government had always said, she added, there was no commitment to provide cash for designated areas.

Mr Peter Mills (West Devon, C): There is tremendous economic benefits to the rural areas if this went forward quickly. With the terrible loss of agricultural land through roads and buildings, it is important to increase home food production from marginal land.

Mrs Fenner: As soon as the results have been fully examined and the interested parties have been consulted, the case will go to the European Commisson.

It does need careful consideration. We need to submit a watertight case as soon as possible. The National Farmers' Union have agreed to this approach.

I accept his comments, but have always said there is no Government commitment to provide funds for areas which are designated. The first step is to put the case to Brussels.

Britain to sign salmon convention

Progress towards establishing a convention to conserve salmon stocks in the North Atlantic was reported in a written reply by Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

He said that the interested parties, including the European Community, had adopted the text of a convention which would be opened for signatures on March 2.

When it came into force the convention would provide for the first time an international forum for the control of intercepting fisheries, and would prevent the establishment of new maritime fisheries by the adhering parties outside the 12 miles coastal limits.

The United Kingdom would therefore support Community membership of the convention under appropriate conditions.

He also welcomed the decision that the headquarters of the new organization would be in Edinburgh.

Sex shop licensing approved

PORNOGRAPHY

The new system for licensing sex shops and cinemas was approved during an all night sitting in the Commons when Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill completed its passage and was sent to the House of Lords.

Several MPs criticized a reference in the new schedule which would allow local authorities to licence premises where films are shown or books are sold which deal with "acts of force, restraint, violence or cruelty associated with sexual activity."

Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State, Home Office, said if a way could be found of avoiding using those words the Government would be happy to consider it.

MPs also agreed to another new clause designed to tackle the nuisance of fly posting. It gives district councils or London boroughs power to remove or obliterate any placards or posters displayed in their area which they believed are in contravention of advertisement regulations.

Foot pledges repeal of Tebbit Bill

TRADE UNIONS

The Employment Bill represented a vicious attack on the rights of trade unionists and their unions so it would be repealed by the next Labour Government just like the Industrial Relations Act 1971, Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, promised during business questions.

The Opposition intended to do everything in its power to resist the Bill in Parliament and would fight it generally, he told Mr Francis Pym, Leader of the House. As the legislation would be repealed it would be better if the Government withdrew it now but the committee stage should at least be held on the floor of the Commons.

Mr Pym: His Government did repeal the Industrial Relations Act with disastrous results (Conservative cheers). I have heard his representations, but it is the Government's intention to proceed with this Bill in committee in the normal way and in exactly the same way as the Labour Government did on Bills in a similar area.

Mr Pym later said the only thing that would really be helpful in the rail dispute would be for it to end. In the meantime, a Commons debate would not be helpful.

He also indicated that the death grant was under consideration by the Government, but it was not in a position to make an announcement.

Need to set an example

The Speaker, Mr George Thomas, in a statement said: There has been considerable publicity today (Thursday) about a word which was used last night.

As long as I am Speaker, I shall consider that an unparliamentary expression. None of us would use it in our own homes. I hope this House can maintain a better example to the country.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private Members' Bills: Planning Inquiries (Attendance of Public) Bill and Death Grant Increase Bill, second readings.

Five Government moves to ease lot of elderly

SOCIAL SECURITY

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, announced as part of a package to provide more Government help for the elderly, the setting up of three experimental nursing homes within the National Health Service.

They will be in Portsmouth, Fleetwood and Sheffield and it is hoped that two will become operational within the next 18 months and the third shortly after that.

Mr Fowler, speaking in a debate on the pensions and living standards of the elderly, said the Government's other proposals included a new registration system to improve standards in private and voluntary old people's homes and increased Government grants to voluntary organizations helping the elderly.

Mr John (Pontypridd, Lab) moved an Opposition motion recalling the major progress made by the last Labour Government over pensions and noting with mounting dismay that "Government policies have already lowered and threaten to lower further the standard of living and quality of life of the elderly".

The motion said urgent measures were needed to remedy the situation and in particular an early report was needed on how a constructive response may be made to the declaration of intent of the National Pensioners' Convention.

He said that the pensioners' convention — the federation of all the major organizations involved with pensions — was lobbying the Commons on February 18.

There would be many sincere people united in their anger at the way their standard of living had dropped in the last three years. They would present their ideas as to how that should be prevented in the future.

No one could deny that the Labour government had done a great deal for the pensioner. It was equally undeniable that the story over the last three years was in stark contrast to that record.

The Labour Party bitterly opposed the break of the linkage betweem pensions and earnings and was pledged to restore it. In 1982-83 the Government would save £500m by having cut this link, and a large proportion of this money would be lost by retirement pensioners.

Taking into account the cumulative effect of the Government's action on pensions, an elderly couple was £2.90 a week worse off, and a single person £1.80, than if the link had not been cut. And it meant pensioners could not automatically look forward to an increase in their earnings.

Nothing gave pensioners a sense of grievance more keenly than the issue of uprating in line with inflation. The Government should make good the 3 per cent shortfall in pensions — made up of a 1 per cent claw-back and a 2 per cent lag behind the rate of inflation — as quickly as possible.

There were difficulties in uprating more than annually, but the Government should be looking for ways it could be done rather than reasons why it was not possible. Six-monthly uprating should be confined to periods when inflation was high — in double figures.

As the difficulty in uprating was supposed to be the uprating of supplementary benefits, uprating should be confined to standard pensions, to be uprated 5 per cent after six months when inflation was 10 per cent.

The supplementary benefit rise could still bemade annually. Alternatively, one could add to the flat-rate pension a fixed sum of, say, £2.25 for a couple and £1.50 for a single person, which was roughly 5 per cent inflation for six months. Twelve per cent inflation, even on the Government's own reckoning, appeared to be here to stay.

The Government should shake the Department of Health and Social Services out of its inactive attitude to try to see ways in which uprating could be done on a six-monthly basis rather than annually.

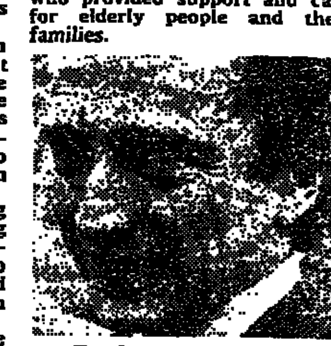
The £10 Christmas bonus was now worth, in the same terms, less than £3. It should at least be doubled and if inflation was to be met fully, it would have to be raised to £35.

There was overwhelming evidence that the death grant was inadequate and causing great anxiety as surviving relatives struggled to pay large funeral bills. The figure of £30 fixed in 1968 was nonsense in 1982.

The Government should also urgently reconsider the need for standing charges for energy, and the patchwork quilt of concessionary fares.

Mr Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Service, moved a Government amendment welcome the action the Government was taking at a time of severe economic difficulty fully to protect retirement pensions against inflation, to provide for the statutory payment of an annual Christmas bonus, to protect the most vulnerable elderly people against rising fuel prices, and to continue the development of services for elderly people.

It expressed appreciation of the dedicated efforts of professional staff and volunteers who provided support and care for elderly people and their families.


Fowler: Experimental nursing homes

He said the level of the pension had increased by 52 per cent over the last three years. Spending on retirement pensions and other benefits for the elderly now totalled £13,500m a year. That had been achieved despite the economic problems.

The Government had done what it had promised to do to maintain pensions in line with inflation, and to continue the Christmas bonus.

The elderly were not a ring-fenced group. They were affected by general economic policies like the rest. Mr John had advicated policies which would add further hundreds of millions of pounds to public expenditures he knew there was no way in which the nation could afford it without there being the most catastrophic effects on the economy.

The Government wanted to take a number of further initiatives.

The first concerned elderly patients needing continuous nursing care. At present many of these patients were housed in long stay geriatric wards. Many things worked against providing a home-like environment in these wards, in spite of all the excellent activity aimed at achieving that goal. The Government's aim was to provide for as many of those elderly patients as possible in small local units close to families and friends.

As a contribution the Government intended to set up three experimental nursing homes within the NHS at Fleetwood, Portsmouth and Sheffield, intended for people who did not need to be in hospital. They would be in charge of a nurse and medical care would be provided by general practitioners and remedial and community support services would be available.

They would be financed jointly by the health authorities and the Department of Health and be would be funding an independent evaluation of the scheme from his department's research funds. The nursing homes would have a capacity of between 30 and 50.

The Government was also examining the possibility of setting up a second set of experimental schemes for care outside hospitals, this time for elderly patients who might need care because of psychiatric disorders.

The second initiative concerned the long term care provided for old people by private and voluntary residential homes. There was a need to ensure that the care provided in these homes had kept pace with the needs of the residents and overall pattern of services for old people.

The Government was about to issue a consultative document on the subject to help it decide what improvements were needed in the registration sysytem in England and Wales. The document would also propose a code of practice which local authorities might apply flexibily to encourage improvement in conditions.

The Government would be seeking to rely on advice as a means of improving standards rather than the rigid application of new statutory requirements.

The third action the Government would be taking concerned voluntary organizations. These would include a major grant to Age Concern to help them establish a national trainig centre where they would run courses for their professional staff and for volunteers.

Help would also be given to the Centre for Policy on Ageing, to Contact and to the Employment Fellowship.

The fourth initiative was that the Government was setting up new arrangements to improve financial and policy accountability in the National Health Service. Each year, ministers would lead a departmental review, with the chairman and chief officers of each regional health authority, of regional long-term plans and objectives and of the efficiency with which it provided services.

For the first time since 1948, the Government would be able to carry out a systematic and rigorous corporate review of policy.

The fifth initiative was on joint financing, which had made a big contribution to promoting community care. Through the scheme, NHS cash was used to support and enhance community care provided by social services authorities and voluntary organizations.

From just over £8m in 1976-77 joint finance had now risen to over £75m in this financial year. A further increase was planned next year bringing that total to almost £85m.

Forty per cent of joint finance was spent on services for the elderly. But the scheme did not go far enough. There were still many in hospital who need not be there, including many of the elderly.

The Government had sought the views of interested bodies on further ways of moving resources from health to personal social services. Clear preference had emerged for two proposals. One involved making the joint financing arrangements more flexible. The other was intended to move people more quickly out of hospital into community care.

The Government wished to consider other suggestions and he hoped to anounce a conclusion shortly, later this year.

While appreciating the concern of organisations like the National Pensioners' conventions, he was not prepared to make promises that could not be kept. It would cost £11,500m to raise pensions by the amount suggested in the convention's declaration.

The public would give no credit if problems were disguised or hopes raised that could not be fulfilled. The majority of people wanted sufficient income.

Mr Gregor Mackenzie (Rutherglen, Lab) said that if the Government had the will it would be possible to implement some of the legitimate aspirations of old age pensioners. By destroying the wealth creators the Government had destroyed the means by which the elderly could be paid a fair pension.

Mr Andrew Bowden (Brighton, Kemptown, C) said he could support neither the motion nor the Government amendment. The next pension increase must be in the region of 16 to 17 per cent allowing for an inflation rate of 12 per cent between last November and next. The Government should be thinking in terms of and increase in the single pension of £5 with £8 for a married couple, to honour pledges.

The Government should be looking ahead towards preparing a workable national concessionary fares scheme and there was more to be done in producing a nationally comprehensive fuel and heating scheme.

Public sector pensions being sorted out

The Government's aim was to ensure that pensions for public servants were fair to taxpayers as well as to employees, pensioners and their dependants, Mrs Thatcher the Prime Minister, said during questions.

She added: We are trying to sort out the whole matter of conditions of contributions for the many different groups in the public service—civil servants, police, nurses and teachers.

Mr Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar, C) had drawn attention to the widespread coverage in the morning papers on index-linked pensions for the public service.

Recognizing (he said) that the Cabinet may well still be considering the Scott report, is she able to indicate if the Government will be prepared to accept the principle recommendaton of the report that notwithstanding the possibility of increased contributions, the index-linked pensions in the public service should remain?

Mrs Thatcher told him she had no announcement to make about this and would be surprised if there were an announcement tomorrow (Friday).

Sex victims volunteer for jail talks with rapists

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Women victims of sexual attacks have volunteered to meet rapists in Maidstone prison, Kent, so that they can understsand better the serious consequences of their crime.

The once-weekly sessions were praised yesterday in a report on Maidstone prison by the Chief Inspector of Prisons.

The women counsellers at these sessions are voluntary associates, volunteers who help the probation service. They take part with groups of six prisoners to talk about their feelings as victims of sexual attack. A probation officer and two uniformed prison officers also attend. A prisoner goes to the group until officers feel he has learnt all he can. According to the Home Office the men taking part are "generally naive, inadequate people with little understanding of the opposite sex or sexual matters." The scheme is one of a number described in the report as impressive and is designed to make prison treatment more positive.

By allowing men to talk to victims the intention is to try to prevent the prisoners fantasizing about women as sexual objects. The probation service has also set up an Alcoholics Anonymous group.

The sex offenders are from a special wing which brings together 100 men from various prisons who have asked to be segregated because the nature of their offences might lead to attacks by other prisoners.

The report describes the "real achievement of providing a comparatively good quality of life and freedom from intimidation for 100 men who would otherwise have a miserable existence elsewhere.

☐ Miss Joan Lestor, Labour's spokesman on women's rights, yesterday called on Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, to set up police rape squads. (The Press Association reports).

She also demanded changes in police procedure for questioning rape victims.

In a letter to Mr Whitelaw, Miss Lestor, MP for Eton and Slough, said rape squads similar to those in some cities in the United States should be established in Britain.

"I very much encourage you seriously to consider the possibility of setting up specialized training for officers in this country, especially in the Metropolitan area, along similar lines to the existing bomb and drug squads", she said.

Miss Lestor said women should have to make only a brief statement before being examined.

Miss Lestor also insisted that a full statement should be taken only after the woman had had a chance to rest and advised of the possibility of a friend remaining with her.

☐ An anti-rape campaign was started yesterday aimed at warning nurses, to take special care and be extra alert. The campaign; launched by the *Nursing Standard*, says nurses are at high risk of sexual attack. It wants health authorities to increase security.

☐ Edward Dubois, the "Brixton rapist", who followed young women to their homes and then attacked them, was jailed for nine years at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Judge Mason told him: "During the period of these offences no woman of a respectable kind in this area was safe from you".

"Who knows what effect what you did may have on them for the rest of their lives?"

Dubois, aged 30, an unemployed squatter, had been convicted of raping three women.

The judge told him: "You were medically examined and it is quite clear there is no mental abnormality on your part. The sentence I pass must reflect the horror of which I have spoken and everyone's sense of public outrage over what you did."

Dubois received three years for each rape, the sentences to run consecutively. He received a total of six months for thefts.

HM Prison Maidstone: Report by HM Chief Inspector of Prisons (Home Office, London, £1.10).



Lieutenant-Colonel George Forty, curator of the Bovington Tank Museum, Dorset, who has launched a campaign to place the armoured vehicle collection under cover to save it from weather damage

Computer aid for astronomers

By Robin McKie, of The Times Higher Education Supplement

An advanced technique which will allow British astronomers to operate telescopes in other countries and to carry out all normal experiments from computer terminals in this country is to be launched by the Science and Engineering Research Council.

The first stage of the project is to be established at the council's Hawaii observatory with the aim of running the United Kingdom infrared telescope there directly from its administrative base at the Royal Observatory, Edinburgh, in a few years.

A second telescope, to study star formation and interstellar dust clouds using radiation of wavelengths of less than a millimetre, is also expected to be built by the council in Hawaii. A formal proposal recommending the move is to be discussed by the council in the next few weeks.

Professor Malcolm Longair, director of the Edinburgh observatory, said the two telescopes would then offer British astronomers "a world-beating combination of facilities". Using the satellite link, in combination with Starlink, the national computer display system that connects Britain's main astronomical centres, scientists would be able to sit at a terminal and operate the telescopes, carrying out their research without leaving their departments.

The project is to be set up in three stages. First, a data channel using telephone lines will connect the infra-red telescope, sited on top of the 14,000ft peak Mauna Kea, with its ground base at the town of Hilo, to allow scientists there a limited amount of remote control.

Then a microwave radio link will be set up so the telescope's operations can be run on full remote control from Hilo. In a few years, those will be extended using communication satellites, so that the observatory will run directly using duplicate controls in Britain.

Confusion blamed for death blast

A misunderstanding led to a chemical plant explosion which killed one man, seriously injured another and resulted in a thousand people being moved from their homes, a court was told yesterday.

An employee misinterpreted instructions from a company director after vapours escaped from a still at the Chemstar plant in Stalybridge, and turned the still back on, causing the explosion, magistrates at Dukinfield, Greater Manchester, were told.

The court was told that the firm, which admitted failing to ensure its employees' safety would soon be going into liquidation. It was fined £900.

Dr John Newton, for the prosecution said the explosion on September 6 happened during the "laundering" of 1,200 gallons of highly inflammable hexane chemical, a distillation process which required a perfect supply of water.

Dr Newton said the hot vapours escaped while Mr Norman Halsall, who was purifying the hexane, was helping a lorry driver.

Mr Halsall telephoned Mr John Simon, a company director, and was told to switch off everything and wait for half an hour, Mr Tim Mort, the company's solicitor, said.

But Mr Mort said Mr Halsall misunderstood the instruction and switched the steam from the still back on

Calculated scheme to learn maths

From Our Correspondent Dereham

Children at a Norfolk school are to have to take a special test before being granted a licence to use a pocket calculator in class.

If they subsequently make a bad mathematical error, the licence will be endorsed. Three endorsements will mean a calculator ban until they have passed the test again.

The scheme is the idea of Mr John Kirby, deputy headmaster and a mathematics teacher at Northgate High School, Dereham. He said he was concerned at the effects calculators were having. Children were using them without knowing elementary facts of arithmetic.

The calculator licence will be awarded on passing a *numeracy examination*.

"The questions will not demand complicated calculations. Just proof that the pupil has grasped the basic principles of the four rules, decimals, percentages, cancelling, fractions and money", Mr Kirby said.

All children up to the fourth year will be covered by the scheme and licences will be renewed at least annually, subject to success in the numeracy examinations.

The licence will be endorsed for an "unforgiveable error", Mr Kirby said.

☐ The Cockcroft committee of inquiry into mathematics teaching, whose report was published last week, devotes a whole chapter to the use of calculators and computers in the belief that their increasing availability at low cost is "of the greatest *significance*" (Our Education Correspondent writes).

It comments on public concern about the use of calculators by children who have not yet mastered the traditional skills of arithmetic, but says that the weight of evidence is that the use of calculators has not produced any adverse effect on basic computational ability. "There can be little doubt of the motivating effect which calculators have for very many children", it says, and calls for the introduction *of a national* scheme to ensure that each pupil has access to a calculator during mathematics lessons.

The increasing use of calculators in adult life provided an over-riding reason why all secondary pupils should be taught and allowed to use a calculator, the committee says it recommends that calculators replace logarithm tables.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Leyland workers stay out

Bus and truck workers at Leyland Vehicles' five factories in Lancashire voted overwhelmingly yesterday to continue their two-week strike over planned redundancies, in spite of claims that it threatens the company's future (our Wigan correspondent writes).

Of the estimated 5,000 workers crowded into the car park at the Farington works at Leyland, fewer than 100 voted against continuing the stoppage.

Mr Michael Coyne, strike committee chairman, accused management during the 20-minute meeting of waging a war of words in an extensive local newspaper advertising campaign.

"They are expecting the workers to capitulate under all the publicity and using the tactic of not meeting for another 15 days while this happens", he said. "We will be available for 24 hours a day to talk to them about an honourable return to work.

Judge rewards girl with £30

Helen Brearley aged 16, was praised by a judge at Luton, Bedfordshire, yesterday and given a £30 reward from public funds for her alertness in picking out a thief in an identity parade.

She saw Hugh O'Neil aged 27, of Luton, dash from a shop after he and another man attacked an elderly shopkeeper and robbed him, at *knifepoint, of £50. O'Neil* was jailed for seven years for the robberies on Wednesday.

Guard hurt in robbery

A security guard delivering nearly £12,000 in wages had his nose broken in an armed robbery by three masked men in Wavertree, Liverpool, yesterday.

Pubs back research

More than £231,000 has been raised for medical research by 615 public houses throughout Britain in *the national* InterPub contest organized by the Muscular Dystrophy Group.

No bail for youth

A youth aged 16 was remanded for a week by Bristol Juvenile Court yesterday accused of the attempted murder of Police Constable Ian Bennett, aged 36 on January 30. Bail was refused.

Factory sit-in must end

From Our Correspondent, Edinburgh

Plessey, the electronics company, was granted an order by a Court of Session judge in Edinburgh yesterday banning the continued occupation of its factory in Bathgate. Lothian, by members of the work force.

The occupation has been going on since January 25 when it was announced that the factory was to close at the end of March.

A petition seeking an interim interdict named 141 workers including 10 shop stewards. After hearing legal argument Lord Kincraig said: "I am not in a position to judge the action taken by the company, or to judge the policy being pursued. I am concerned with the occupation of the premises." He added that the action of the work force might or might not be politically or industrially proper; but they had not denied at the hearing that the company had the right to prevent the occupation of the premises without their authority.

Three members of the work force appeared.

Mr George Wilson said: "If there is any natural justice, then that justice would be on our side". Lord Kincraig commented: "I do not administer natural justice. I administer the law of Scotland, which may or may not be justice. I can't tell you whether your cause is just — just whether it is legal."

Mrs Anne Moonie said the occupation was the only way to draw attention to their plight.

A meeting of workers afterwards decided to continue the occupation, and hold another meeting at the weekend. (Our Shotts Correspondent writes).

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Creation scientists retreat

New York.—The final note has been sounded in the retreat of the so-called "creation scientists", of Arkansas (Michael Hamlyn writes). The state's Attorney General announced that he was not proceeding with an appeal against the judgment that a law requiring balanced treatment between evolution and creation in schools was unconstitutional.

Mr Stephen Clark, the attorney, said that certain parts of Judge William Overton's judgment were in error, but that even if they were not allowed to stand there were three significant legal obstacles to overcome which he would find it impossible to argue against.

Crash pilots knew about ice

Washington — A tape from the airliner that crashed into the Potomac River three weeks ago, killing 78 people, suggested that the pilots took off knowng there was ice or snow on the wings, the *Washington Post reported*.

Transcripts of the voice recorder showed that the pilots of the Air Florida Boeing 737 commented repeatedly on the blizzard. It suggests that the pilots looked out of flight deck windows to check for ice or snow on the wings, noted there was some, and then took off.

Festival rejects Disney film

A Walt Disney film depicting the flight by hot air balloon of two families from East Germany to the West has been refused a showing at the Berlin Film Festival the week after next (Kenneth Gosling writes). No reason was given, a spokesman for Walt Disney Productions said.

The film, *Night Crossing*, is based on an actual incident in September, 1979. It is to have its world premiere in Berlin and is expected to open in Britain in early summer. It is directed by Delbert Mann

Missing imam case closed

Rome — The Rome magistrate in charge of investigations into the disappearance in August, 1978, of Moussa Sadr, the Lebanese Shiite imam, has ordered the case closed, a source in the judiciary reported.

The imam disappeared on August 31, 1978, when he was supposed to leave Libya for Italy on Flight AZ881 of the *national carrier Alitalia*.

Poison gas accusation

Berlin. Feb. — A West Berlin firm has been manufacturing illegally a poison gas ingredient and shipping it to Israel, the city prosecutor's office said.

The Ferak Chemical Company *was charged with* producing thiophosgene, a product used in the manufacture of poison gases similar to those used in the First World War.

Hospital check on Kissinger

New York — Henry Kissinger, the former Secretary *of State, is in hospital in* Boston for what his staff called a routine check-up. He is due to be discharged today to go on holiday.

He has suffered recently from a painful shoulder but is otherwise quite fit, an assistant said.

Trip to Japan

Paris. — President Mitterrand will make a state visit to Japan next April, at a date yet to be decided. It will be the first by a French President to that country.

Mubarak fails to bridge gulf on Palestinians

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Feb 4

Despite a firm assurance of Egypt's commitment to the Camp David peace process President Mubarak has underscored the deep differences between his country and Israel on ways to solve the Palestinian problem.

After a second meeting here today with President Reagan, Mr Mubarak reaffirmed his commitment to the present Palestinian autonomy talks: "We are determined to pursue our peace efforts until a comprehensive settlement is reached according to the Camp David accords", he said in a formal statement on leaving the White House.

But no new initiatives on how to bring about a breakthrough have emerged from the discussions in Washington.

President Mubarak in another formal statement yesterday emphasized that the 1.2 million Palestinians living in Israeli-occupied territory on the West Bank and Gaza Strip had a right to function as a national entity and to self-determination.

This would not necessarily mean creating a nation state, but moving some way towards it and does not accord with the limited autonomy that the Israelis have in mind.

A spokesman for the Israeli Embassy here said today that the call for a national entity deviated from the Camp David accords.

President Mubarak since taking office has been trying to heal the break between Egypt and the other Arab nations which had developed over Egypt's rapprochement with Israel. His public statements are regarded as persuading the Arab world that he is searching for a solution to the Palestinian problem with which other Arab states could concur.

Like President Sadat during his visit last year, *President Mubarak called last* night on the United States to open talks with the Palestin ians.

President Reagan, however, reiterated the American's promise to the Israelis that negotiations with the Palestinian Liberation Organization could take place only if the PLO agreed to the long standing conditions of accepting United Nations Security Council resolutions and agreeing to Israel's right to exist as a nation state.

□ **Tel Aviv:** Israel today approved the development of a new generation of fighter-interceptor aircraft to be called Lavie and signed an agreementwith Pratt and Whitney for the joint development of its engine (Moshe Brilliant writes).

Known as the PW 1120 the engine is to be based on the F100 produced by Pratt and Whitney for F15 and F16 aircraft. The agreement put into effect a contract concluded last year and signed today by Mr Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister and Mr Frank McAbee of United Technologies, the parent company of Pratt and Whitney.

The Government alternativeto approval of the Lavie project was said to have been coproduction of American aircraft, but a squadron of F15, F16 and F18 would be so expensive that the Air Force would not be able to afford enough aircraft, according to parliamentary procurement committee.

□ Mr Sharon told a press conference that terrorist breaches of the ceasefire were building up, and he said Israel would not accept a return to the situation that preceded the July ceasefire. He said Israel would not initiate fighting but would respond to attacks.

He held PLO headquarters in Lebanon responsible for directing terrorist attacks wherever they occured.

He said there were 60 breahes of the ceasefire which was arranged in July by Mr Philio Habib, the American special envoy. Half of them were in the South Lebanese strip controlled by *Major Saad Haddad, Israel's* ally. More than 20 attempts were made to infiltrate from Jordan but most of these were intercepted by the Jordanians. The rest of the breaches occurred in Europe where terrorists atacked Jewish and Israeli institutions.

□ Major Haddad demanded today that the United Nations and Israel halt an increase in Palestonian guerrialla forces in the area, (Reuter reports).

He said the number of palestinian guerrillas had risen in recent weeks from 500 to more than 900 and were infiltrating withiout any difficulty into the area held by United Nations forces, especially near Tyre where the Senegalese contingent let them through.

Major Haddad said the guerrillas had used the *ceasefire made last summer* to strengthen their units

□ New York Arab states appeared determined today to press ahead with a resolution which could pave the way for Israel's expulsion from the United Nations (Zoriana Pysariwsky writes).

The State Department yesterday issued a statement saying any threat or attempt to expel Israel or any other member state would violate the principle of universality on which the United Nations was founded.

It added that the United States has made it clear — that suspension or expulsion of Israel from the United Nations or any other of its affiliates would have serious consequences for continued American participation in and support for the United Nations.

The statement, however, appeared to have little effect on the sponsors of the draft resolution, which also calls for a mititary, economic, diplomatic and cultural embargo againsts Israel

New Cairo style, page 12



Bowing to progress: A German fodder silo, 90ft high and 105ft long, topples with the detonation of 5½lb of explosive to make way for a new, high-speed railway from Mannheim to Stuttgart.

US defence cost put at £113,600m

From Mohsin Ali Washington, Feb 4

While President Reagan puts the finishing touches to the 1983 budget which he is *to* send to congress next week, his senior officials have been juggling with figures which would appear to raise the level of defence appropriations while not increasing the size of the overall budget deficit.

According to administration sources, the Presidentd's budget message will call for actdual defence spending ammounting to $215,900m (£113,630m) This amount, which is a record peace-time defence budget, is about $1,000m more than the president had predicted last September.

Additionally, the Presidentd will seek an extra $13,600m in new budget authority for the Pentagon. However, this amount will not actually be spent during fiscal 1983 but will enable the Pentagon to make contracts *which would have to paid for* in subsequentd years.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, discussed the proposed increases during a closed session of the Senate armed services committee earlier this week. Some reports of what Mr Weinberger told that meeting gave the impression that the President had agreed to a *further* increase in actual defence spending rather than in budget authority.

Administration sources said the main effort in shaping the new defence budget had focused on keeping 1983 spending increases in check

Political motive seen in troop cuts leak

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Feb 4

There are no plans to reduce the 350,000 American troops based in Western Europe in either the short, medium, or long term.

However a proposal to cut back their number and instead build up an expeditionary force based in America is one of the ideas discussed from time to time by Nato experts examining ways of streamlining the alliance's military capability.

The fact that such a proposal should have been leaked to the west German newspaper, *Die Welt* is considered to be a political move by defence experts in Washington. There is considerable discontent within sections of the administration with the Government of Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, particularly over Poland.

Suggestions that the United States could be considering a troop reduction are certain to cause him political embassassment and provide ammunition to the opposition Christain Democrats.

Despite the strains which Nato is undergoing the Administration remains solidy committed to it. It is a matter on which even Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, and Mr Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary — at odds on so many other issues — are united.

The Administration is particularly anxious to avoid any steps at this stage which could be seen as sending the wrong signal to the Soviet Union.

Any move to reduce Americam troops in Europe now would cause a crisis within Nato and would seriously undermine the United States position at the Geneva talks on the reduction of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

It would also have serious implications on the long drawn-out negotiations in Vienna on mutual and balanced force reductions in central Europe. The UnitedStates is formly committed to the Nato decision to make withdrawals of its forces in central Europe only as part of a decision on East-West multilateral reductions.

It is possible that in due course there could be some reduction in American forces in Europe, because some Pentagon planners believe a conflict is less likely to break out in Europe, than in other parts of the world.

However,such reductions would be made only after close consultation with the allies and only if there were reciprocal reductions of Warsaw Pact forces.

Spain given advice on rowdies

From Richard Wigg Madrid, Feb 4

Perhaps the Basque country, traditionally one of the regions of Spain feeling most good-will towards Britain, does not yet know what is going to hit it when English football supporters descend on Bilbao next June for the first of England's games in the World Cup finals.

So far even the taxi drivers have been seeking to learn some English as the Basque community generally prepares a welcome for an event seen as promising good football combined with good tourist trade.

But tomorrow Mr Neil Macfarlane, the Minister for Sport, will be in Madrid for talks designed to help the Spanish authorities cope should the minority element of hooligans who wreak havoc in and around English football games decide to come to Spain as well.

He will talk to Señora Soledad Becerril, Minister of Culture, who also has responsibility for sport. Mr Macfarlane's trip comes after a visit last month by officials trying to help with Britain's experience of the hooligan element.

The hope is that the warning will reach the security officials and police at the grounds where England and Scotland are to play.

Mr Edward Barrett, British Consul-General in Bilbao, commented: "I think we should try and look on the bright side. I reckon the authorities have the full picture by now."

As many as 15,000 British football supporters could arrive in Bilbao for the game, and one idea the local tourist authorities are examining is providing extra accommodaion in ships tied up on the Nervion estuary.

Tempers rise in trade war

From Ian Murray Brussels, Feb 4

Japan's failure to satisfy European demands for a more open market will be studied by the European Commission next Wednesday against the growing background of national demands for protectionist measures.

At the same time three European Commissioners will be in Washington battling with the American authorities over claims that Europe is dumping unwanted steel and agricultural products on the American market.

It was clear in Brussels today that tempers are rising on both trade fronts as one senior commission official held an informal briefing to tell journalists that if American harassment continued "there will be a good deal of blood on the floor".

He gave a warning that unless everybody stood by the rules "we could relapse into a chaos of bilateralism of the type which existed in the 1930s with consequences of the kind for which many Europeans paid with their lives". So far, however, the trade war is less one of conflicting words than of conflicting figures.

Japan this morning produced a new set of numerical assurances that Japan really was doing its best to open its markets. There would be 1,653 items with reduced tariffs between now and 1988, and the reduction averaged 15.6 per cent — a loss in revenue to the Japanese Government of $200m (just over £100m).

The commission official took nothing like so rosy a view. The drop in the rate for biscuits, he said, would be from 38.5 per cent to 36.3 per cent.

Night battle for a dusty town

From Paul Ellman Tonacotopeque El Salvador, Feb 4

It was far from a great battle but it was typical of the two-year-old war in El Salvador. The guerrillas showed that they could strike close to the capital but were unable to attain their objective — the capture of this dusty town of 25,000 inhabitants, 12 miles from the outskirts of San Salvador.

The guerrillas, of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Movement, surrounded the town shortly after 10 pm last night. They called upon its defenders, a 44-man force drawn from the local militia, to surrender and, when they refused, opened fire.

The attacking guerrilla force, estimated to have been 200-strong, swiftly overran positions on the edge of the town and moved on the local command post.

The defenders, armed only with vintage, bolt-action rifles against the automatic rifles and grenade-launchers of the guerrillas, were able to call up troops from a garrison near by. The clashes continued well into the night, with the last exchange of fire occurring around 5 am, seven hours after the initial guerrilla attack.

The defenders suffered three dead — two of them from the local militia and the other from the Army — and 10 wounded. One of the dead was Carlos Galdamoz, a 48-year-old fieldworker and father of eight.

As his body lay on the cement floor of his tiny home, surrounded by wailing relatives, his neighbours complained that lack of proper defences made their town an easy target for guerrilla attacks.

But this morning, at least three companies of infantry, supported by armoured vehicles, had taken up positions in the town. There were no signs of a follow-up operation.

□ The El Salvador Army is asking the United Nations human rights commission to verify its claim that guerrillas killed more than 150 peasants in an attack on the village of Nueva Trinidad, near the Honduran border, at the weekend (AP reports from San Salvador).

"The Communist attackers dedicated themselves to killing, to butchery, to exterminating the population, and they killed children, women and men — even animals", an Army spokesman said.

Hostility to press plan rejected as hysterical

From Michael Hornsby Cape Town, Feb 4

Mr R. F. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, today described as hysterical and premature the hostile press reaction here and abroad to the proposals of the Steyn commission of inquiry into the mass media.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Botha maintained that the press coverage of the Steyn report had been deliberately "dished up in such a fashion as to give the impression to the reader abroad that the Government intends to kill press freedom in this country".

"Some papers here obviously expected the Government to react immediately, and to clamp down on the press, and the Government did exactly the *opposite*", Mr Botha maintained. "The present hysterical outburst is apparently based on frustration that the Government did not react as expected".

The Steyn report, accompanied by draft Bills embodying its proposals, was tabled in Parliament earlier this week. If implemented, the draft laws would, among other things, require all journalists to be licensed by a statutory board of controls. This has been widely condemned as a means of imposing political conformity.

The Prime Minister's response in Parliament to the Steyn report had been "very, very categorical and clearly stated", Mr Botha declared.

"He said that the Government could not give a conclusive 'yes' or 'no', that it was a voluminous report, that it required study and that negotiations would take place with the press. Now what more reasonable attitude can any government adopt?"

It was impossible, Mr Botha insisted, for the Government to indicate what its final position might be



Mr Botha: Little comfort for journalists.

when it was still only "at the beginning of a process of discussion with the press". Nor would he be able to express any personal view on the Steyn proposals until he knew what the outcome of these negotiations were.

Mr Botha's comment will do little to calm the fears of editors and journalists here who question the motives of the Government in commissioning the Steyn report in the first place and are alarmed that the Government should be prepared even to consider a measure like the compulsory registration of journalists.

The Foreign Minister's remarks tend to confirm the view gaining ground here that the Government's initial strategy will be to try and persuade the press to exercise self-censorship while holding over its head the threat of legislation as a weapon of last resort.

The Government's main target is the influential English-language press, which is by far the freest in Africa and keeps up a constant nagging assault on the policy of apartheid. Pretoria would dearly love to see this criticism muffled.

In response, newspaper owners and editors have set up a committee to draw up a plan for remodelling the existing, though largely ineffectual, South African Press Council

Nicaragua crushes 'plot to split the country'

Managua, Feb 4 — Nicaragua announced today that its security forces had smashed a "counter-revolutionary" plot to separate the eastern province of Zelaya, from the rest of the country and had arrested more than 100 *people in the province.*

Last week, the United States State Department spokesman, Mr Alan Romberg, accused the Sandinist Government of oppressing Miskito Indians in Zelaya, a predominantly black, English-speaking province. The Nicarraguan Government denied the allegations.

Mr Romberg said the leftist Government had declared Zelaya a military zone and restricted travel in the region. The province, which is rich in resources, occupies about half of Nicaragua's territory.

Mr Romberg also said the Government had seized Zelaya's leading independent radio station, prohibited circulation of the country's only independent newspaper, and expelled religious workers from the region.

In Managua today, the Defence Ministry spokesman, Captain Roberto Sanchez, claimed the plot had been led by Mr Steadman Fagoth Muller, a Miskito Indian of part-German ancestry who formerly headed Misurasata, an organization representing three Indian tribes inhabiting Zelaya.

Mr Muller fled the country last May and now lives in neighbouring Honduras. The separatist movement, which Captain Sanchez said was called Operation Red Christmas, started last November.

He said the conspirators hoped to foster anti-government feelings among the residents of the province and start an uprising, thus paving the way for intervention by "foreign military forces that would support the separatist *plan*".

In addition to creating a "climate of terror" in the province, the conspirators had simultaneously planned to carry out an ideological-type campaign aimed at sowing confusion and aversion toward the Sandinsta revolution" in Zelaya, Captain Sanchez said.

□ New York. — Cooling relations with the United States could push Nicaragua into the Cuban and Soviet camps, although Managua would prefer strengthened ties with Washington, Father Miguel d'Escoto, the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister said here today.

Squabbles over 39-hour week

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Feb 4

The French Government *decree for reducing the* working week to 39 hours and introducing a fifth week of paid holidays a year, has got off to a bad start. Its scope was not clearly defined by the Government, as the Prime Minister himself has admitted, and it is being very differently interpreted by the employers and the unions.

Employers are naturally in favour of a restrictive interpretation, *while the unions* are trying to squeeze the most advantage from the decree and preserve a wide variety of special privileges and "perks", which, strictly speaking, do not square up with it.

The consequence was the outbreak of a rash of local conflicts, strikes and stoppages, of which the most spectacular is the work to rule by customs officers, causing delays and disruption for the past week, mainly to road traffic, but also at airports.

The customs officials have threatened to paralyse traffic if their own, often unwritten, "perks" are not maintained. *They want meal, rest, and* travel time to be included in the 39-hour week, which is not in accordance with the administration's interpretation of the government decree — that it means 39 hours effectively worked.

They claim, for instance, that this means they lose the hour they were paid for "carbonic pollution", at the alpine tunnels of Frejus and *Mont Blanc. So hundreds of* lorries have piled up at the Spanish and Italian frontiers, and travellers' luggage has been meticulously searched as a gesture of protest.

Other conflicts have broken out, in Paris department stores, in postal services of the Paris region, and in private firms here and there throughout the country, where no agreement has been reached between management and labour on the number of hours to be actually worked.

The leading trade union organizations are naturally exploiting the situation to outbid one another. The leftist CFDT metal workers *have called for a week of* action next week to obtain a "real" reduction in working hours, and the and effective work-sharing.

As for the Communist CGT, it has condemned the government measure as a "bad decree", and is launching a campaign for the defence of its members' acquired rights, and against *any reduction in earnings.* The Government has insisted only that the earnings of workers on the national minimum wage should be unaffected by the shortening of the working week

M Jean Aroux, the Minister of Labour, had the misfortune yesterday of saying that some of these "perks" were modest and legitimate, while other acquired rights had become unacceptable in a society which wanted to practise solidarity, The CGT commented that it was his remarks that were unacceptable.

ANGER OVER BELGIAN AUSTERITY

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels, Feb 4

The Coalition Government's special powers came into force today as signs of mounting social unrest became apparent. The special powers make it possible to introduce by royal decree fiscal and economic measures the Government deems necessary to save the country from impending bankruptcy.

The first such measures are relatively uncontroversial. Two help the building industry by cutting value added tax on construction from 17 to 6 per cent and by doing away with capital gains tax on building sites. Another seven measures also tinker with unemployment.

A 24-hour general strike call by the socialist FGTB union for next Monday is expected to receive support throughout the country, while in Wallonia members of the Christian CSC union are planning to defy their executive and join the protest.

New terror wave feared

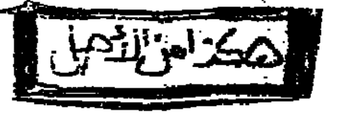
From Harry Debelius, Madrid, Feb 4

The Basque separatist organization ETA-PM can be expected to resume its campaign of violence soon, a source close to the Basque home rule government said in Madrid today.

It announced in a clandestine communiqué soon after the attempted coup of February, 1981, that it was suspending its urban guerrilla activities, on the ground that it did not wish to give coup apologists any kind of justification for trying to overthrow the constitutional monarchy.

In spite of that it kidnapped Dr Julio Iglesias, the father of the popular singer, in Madrid on December 29 and held him for 19 days. Police tracked him down, rescued him and arrested his captors.

ETA-PM then claimed that the kidnapping was not a violation of the truce, since it was carried out to finance the organization's operations and not for political motives.



News in Summary

Air crash kills 31 legionnaires

Paris.—Thirty-one foreign legionnaires and a five-man French Army crew were killed when their aircraft crashed during a training exercise in Djibouti, a Defence Ministry spokesman said.

There were no survivors when the aircraft struck a mountain in a desolate region of the former French East African colony. "As usual, the legionnaires were of various nationalities but no names will be released," the spokesman said. The cause of the crash was not known.

The legionnaires had just started a four-month training tour in Djibouti after arriving from Corsica. Djibouti gained independence from France in 1977 but French military units remain there under bilateral agreements.

Rubik cube world contest



Professor Erno Rubik, who will head an international jury for a world Rubik cube championship this spring.

Rules of the competition are to be announced in March. Professor Rubik said a time limit for solving the puzzle should be set as a condition of entry. The contest is to be organized by the Hungarian Konsumex Foreign Trade Company and the Politechnika Industrial Cooperative.

Warship carries Crocker yacht

Port-of-Spain, Trinidad — A yacht on which Michael Crocker, the British yachtsman, was murdered by an intruder on Saturday morning has been taken to Curaçao, Dutch Antibbes, on board the British warship Fearless.

Mr Crocker's widow Trisha is to return to Britain at the weekend with the body of her husband which will be buried at Henley of Tuesday.

Greece protests over buzzing

Athens. — Greece has protested to the United States over the alleged violation of Greek airspace last Sunday by two American fighter jets, the Foreign Ministry said. The jets buzzed a Libyan airliner south of Crete.

Mr Ioannis Haralambopoulos, the Foreign Minister summoned Mr Monteagle Stearns, the American Ambassador, and delivered the protest. He then had talks with Mr Abdel Majid Gammoudi, the Libyan Ambassador.

Seoul police hold 11,500

Seoul. — Police have arrested more than 11,500 people in the capital of South Korea in a four hour period (Jacqueline Reditt writes).

Nearly half of those involved committed traffic offences. More than 1,000 were said to be habitual hoodlums, 643 juvenile delinquents, 181 thieves, 104 were harassing citizens, while 4,064 were simply described as "others".

Haiti Cabinet reshuffled

Port-au-Prince.—President Jean-Claude Duvalier of Haiti has reshuffled his Cabinet and made several changes in his top military command.

Five of the 15 Cabinet ministers were removed from their posts, three new under-secretaries of state were appointed, and the two top posts at Haiti's Central Bank were changed.

Proll sentence cut

Frankfurt. — The West German Appeals Court reduced by six months the five and a half year sentence imposed two years ago on Astrid Proll, a former member of the Terrorist Red Army Group after her extradition from Britain. The court ruled that Fräulein Proll should be punished for her role in one bank robbery rather than two others for which a lower court found her guilty.

ETA shooting

Madrid. — The military wing of ETA, the Basque separatist organization, have claimed resonsibility for the shooting on a Spanish naval lieutenant as he was driving in a Jeep through Zarauz, near San Sebastian. He is said to be satisfactory in hospital (Richard Wigg writes).

Polish Primate and Pope review crises

From Peter Nichols Rome, Feb 4

The Pope, at his first meeting with the Polish Primate, Mgr Jozef Glemp, since martial law was declared, today reviewed what chances remain of a change for the better in the Polish crisis.

Mgr Glemp was accompanied by two other prelates, Cardinal Kacharski, the Pope's successor as Archbishop of Cracow, and Mgr Henryk Gulbinowicz, Bishop of Wroclaw. The three prelates were speaking with the full authority of the whole national episcopal conference and reflect varying experiences and attitudes.

Wroclaw remains a centre of working class opposition to General Jaruzelski's regime. When Mgr Gulbinowicz left his diocese there were still reports of demonstrations, go-slows in factories and distribution of pamphlets critical of the Government.

The bishop will certainly have reflected this more belligerent attitude while the Archbishop of Cracow is still seen to be more patient. The atmosphere, however, is gloomy.

The nature of the meeting was described today at a high level in the Vatican as "a reflection on what has happened and what we can expect in the future". There is now felt to have been sufficient experience of General Jaruzelski's Government to attempt an appraisal of the question of whether there can be hope for better things or whether "there is nothing to be seen but a continuing long black tunnel".

The three prelates went straight to the Pope to begin their talks on their arrival in the late morning and were immediately given to understand that they were the Pope's luncheon guests. The survey will be exhaustive and may last until the eve of the Pope's departure for Nigeria on Friday next week.

This series of meetings has begun dramatically for more than one reason. The Pope is aware that his policy so far has brought him more expressions of doubt and criticism than practical results. Hes last detailed survey with his advisers took place at the end of December when Mgr Luigi Poggi, his itinerant nuncio with a special brief of Poland, returned from his visit to Warsaw.

The policy agreed than was that every effort should be made to allow the regime to prove, if it wished, that it aspired to a degree of a autonomy from the Soviet Union that, in the phrase used at the Pope's table at that time, General Jaruzelski conceivably might prove to be another Tito rather than a Russian puppet.

This fundamental decision meant that the Vatican could not even informally approve the United States policy of sanctions in so far as they were likely to embitter the situation still more by making hungry people hungrier.

The tone of the Pope's public appeals in the meantime has shown his growing anxiety with the failure of the regime to take to heart his demands for the recognition of human rights.

The Vatican's answer to allegations of being too moderate towards the military junta has been, and remains, that there is no moderation at all in the insistence on an end to mass arrests without trial and on support for the Solidarity free trade union movement.

This is the field in which the Roman Catholic Church feels that its weight can best be mobilized and so continue its historic role of a leading element in Polich national life in modern conditions. It remains the one institution with great popular support and so the one possible partner if the regime sincerely wants dialogue.

This is a vulnerable position and is one of the reasons, apart from questions of general principle, why the church would welcome the reinstatement of Solidarity as an active force. The fate of the union has been described at the Vatican as the key to the situation.

Zia closes Libyan centres

From Haslan Akhtar Islamabad,

Libyan "friendship centres" in Pakistan have been closed on the orders of the government. They have been operating for some time in Rawalpindi, Lahore, Karachi and Peshawar and are financed with Libyan money.

Their ostensible purpose was to foster closer contacts at people-to-people level. The reason for their closure by General Zia ul-Hao's Government was not disclosed.

Pakistan's relations with Libya since the late Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's Government was ousted in 1977 have been uneasy. Mr Agha Shahi, the Pakistan Foreign Minister, made an unannounced visit to Libya last month the object of which has never been explained.

Pakistan recently recalled 3,000 of its nationals who had been recruited for unspecified "security jobs" in Libya. It has been frequently reported that Libya is harbouring anti-Government Pakistanis and even financing some clandestine activities by the Al Zulf Ikar Movement headed by sons of Mr Bhutto, who was hanged after his fall from power.



Down to earth at 60 mph

Private Terry Bennett, aged 20, of the United States Army's elite Golden Knights parachute team, fell 8,500ft to the ground after her parachutes malfunctioned.

The tangled main and reserve canopies slowed her descent, but her speed when she hit the ground near Fort Bragg, North Carolina, was still estimated at between 60 and 70 miles an hour. She escaped with a dislocated elbow, two broken bones in her wrist, and a chipped right ankle bone.

Private Bennett, who has completed 850 jumps, said her parachutes had tangled like "a big bag of garbage". She landed in a ploughed, muddy field, which absorbed most of the shock.—Reuter.

CIA and last days of the Shah



In the wake of the Shah: A supporter of President Bani-Sadr lies dead in the battle for fundamentalism

Seething dissent that Washington ignored

From Michael Hamlyn New York, Feb 4

A fascinating description of the closing stages of the rule of the Shah of Iran is being extracted here from the 13 volumes of documents seized when the United States Embassy in Tehran was invaded. They have now been published in Iran.

One striking feature of the detailed reports from the American diplomats and Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) men is how accurately they reflected what was going on, and how well they forecast the future events.

The public statements of the Carter Administration, and to some extent the official high-level reports being offered by the Ambassador conflicted with the ground-level intelligence reporting and with reports from middle-rank diplomats. Hitherto the CIA has been blamed for providing inaccurate assessments of the Shah's weakness and the mullahs' strength. This is now seen as less than fair to the agents on the ground.

The picture drawn by the documents is of a Shah surrounded by a corrupt and venal court, blackmailing Washington into vastly excessive arms purchases, while a seething religious leadership built up more and more strength in the mosques and bazaars.

Extracts from the documents published in the *Washington Post* over the past few days show that doubts about the stability of the regime appeared in secret estimates from the CIA and State Department analysts two full years before the Iranian revolution.

They also show that the oversupply of arms to the Shah caused some worrying questions to be asked. For example a major intelligence review drawn up by Mr David Blee in 1976, then the national intelligence officer for the Middle East, says:

"Washington does not have a clear perception of the Shah's long-range objectives, for example, why is he acquiring such a vast array of sophisticated military hardware? The Shah states that adequate defences against communist-equipped Iraq are merely precautionary, yet the placement of new bases suggests other interests."



Peacock splendour: The Shah, his wife and son at the unveiling of the Reza Shah monument to 50 years of the Pahlavi dynasty in 1976.

The intelligence officers did admit that their information was "potty", as critics have insisted; but the blame must go, the documents point out, to the lack of cooperation they got from the United States military.

The military intelligence arm resposible for liaison with the Shah's huge military machine was extremely loath to pass on information.

Nor were the intelligence men well informed about the simple basics of decision-making within the Shah's Government. Did the Shah decide everything for himself, or did he delegate broad authority to others, are questions that were debated in the documents with no satisfactory conclusions reached.

But where the documents were extremely accurate was in their assessment of the role to be played by the clergy. As early as 1976, a year before President Carter described Iran as "an island of stability", the CIA was reporting: "In the eyes of the religious leaders, Muhammad Reza has betrayed an essential element of his role, protection of Islam. The present generation of religious leaders, moreover, seems to be convinced that the Shah, as his father before him, is determined to destroy Islam in Iran."

The CIA even estimated that "probably no more than 10 per cent of the clergy . . . can be counted as outright supporters of the Shah". These "are probably the least influential of the clergy and are considered by many to be no better than government employees".

More important, the report said "probably 50 per cent are in outright opposition to the Government and are wholly dependent on their popular following for support. This includes nearly every religious leader of any stature".

Another CIA report describes bluntly the near isolation of the Shah and the character of those surrounding him: "The royal court has traditionally been a hotbed of Byzantine scheming. In the Shah's family are an assortment of licentious and financially corrupt relatives. . ."

Two years later the middle-ranking diplomats and CIA agents were painting an appropriately even gloomier picture. But still, official Washington appeared to be under-regarding them. Mr William Sullivan, the Ambassador, was still expressing optimism in his official cables until late in 1978.

Even after the turning point riots in Jaleh Square in September 1978, when army units and helicopter gunships massacred a crowd of demonstrators, the Carter Administration renewed its support for the Shah.

While Mr Victor Tomseth, the American Consul (who was later a hostage), reported that anti-American feeling was rapidly growing, the Ambassador forwarded much more optimistic assessments.

Mr Tomseth wrote that anti-American sentiment often took the form of: "We have nothing against you personally, but Iranians dislike Americans because 1) You keep the Shah in power; 2) American weapons kill our people; 3) You are a bad moral influence on our children; 4) You do not respect Islam; 5) You have caused inflation and shortages, etc. Several people, out of genuine concern for individual Americans they know, have advised that they leave Iran quickly lest something happen to them."

But Mr Sullivan a few days later reported: "An air of calm has been restored to the cities . . . but the Shah and the Government face an enormously complicated . . . task of establishing its leadership, creating some sense of confidence in the Government itself, and achieving a popular consensus for its policies."

A month later, and only two months before the Shah's fall, Mr Sullivan wrote: "While it is too early to make definitive predictions, there are encouraging indications that the Iranian crisis may have passed a fever point and opened some prospects for its constructive resolution."

He added: "In the meantime, the Khomeini star seems to be waning."

Kennedy taped Oval office calls

Boston, Massachusetts, Feb 4 — President John Kennedy secretly recorded conversations and telephone calls with world leaders, congressmen and his aides while he was in the White House, Mr Dan Fenn, the director of the Kennedy Library said Today.

"I have no reason to think they knew they were being taped," Mr Fenn said of the people recorded in 100 to 140 hours of taped meetings and conversations. The tapes are being examined at the library here in preparation for their release to the public, possibly this summer.

Mr Fenn said 250 telephone conversations and 325 meetings in the Oval Office in the White House were recorded from mid-1962 to November 7, 1963, 15 days before the President was assassinated.

Among those recorded in telephone calls were Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia, General Douglas MacArthur, Dr Billy Graham, the evangelist and Mr Adlai Stevenson, the United States representative at the United Nations under President Kennedy. The list also includes members of Congress, according to an index of the tapes that Mr Fenn had.

The subjects of the conversations included Vietnam, the Cuban missile crisis, the integration of the University of Mississippi and civil rights in general.

"I haven't the vaguest idea why Kennedy used the tapes or saved them," Mr Fenn said. "I hope we'll be able to open some of them early this summer. When they're available, they'll be available to anyone, junior high school students, Arthur Schlesinger or anyone."

Any potentially classified material will be referred to the originating agency, which will decide whether to keep it classified or allow the museum to release it,

Miss Evelyn Lincoln, Kennedy's personal secretary, was quoted by the *Washington Post* today as saying that the President threw a switch as a signal to her start taping. She would activate either a recorder attached to his telephone or microphones in the Oval Office.

According to the report, the most frequent names listed among participants were Robert Kennedy, the Attorney-General, and brother of the President, Mr Dean Rusk, the Secretary of State, and Mr Robert McNamara,

The identities of six of the people Kennedy had spoken to and recorded, as well as the subject matter of their conversations, were blacked out on the log obtained by the newspaper.

The existence of some Kennedy tapes — but not their extent — had been known ever since a statement by Mr Fenn in 1973. The Kennedy family handed over the tapes to the library in 1976.

A secret taping system installed by President Nixon led to his resignation during the Watergate scandal, when it was revealed that the recorded conversations varied from his statements on the affair. Mr Nixon's system, unlike President Kennedy's, was voice-activated, and contained about 4,000 hours of conversation.

GIBRALTAR GUARANTEE IS SOUGHT

From Richard Wigg Madrid, Feb 4

Gibraltar and its future statute as an integral part of Spain would be the central theme of negotiations with Britain starting on April 20, Señor José Pedro Pérez Llorca, the Spanish Foreign Minister, told Parliament in Madrid today.

The talks will open near Lisbon on the same day as Spain lifts its blockade of Gibraltar. Señor Pérez Llorca said Spain would seek guarantees of identical treatment for its nationals with those for the Gibraltarians.

He was reporting to the foreign affairs committee of the Lower House on last month's talks in London between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Spanish Prime Minister. ..

The Foreign Minister emphasized: "The one thing Spain will not accept of anybody is the possibility to dispose of the future of a territory which is an integral part of Spain and whose future statute will be the central theme."

American social issues, 1

Right wingers stir up new busing battle

This article by Peter David is the first of three by Our Washington Staff on social issues facing the American Congress

A week after hearing President Reagan promise to continue America's "long journey towards civil rights for all our citizens". Congress is bracing itself for a legislative confrontation over the emotionally-charged issue of school busing.

With the backing of conservative Republicans who control the Senate, two senators — Mr Orrin Hatch of Utah and Mr John East of North Carolina — are introducing a Bill which would abolish forced busing in all but a few exceptional cases.

Liberal Republicans and Democrats alike have sworn to oppose the Bill at every stage of its passage through Congress. And civil rights leaders have promised that if it is ever approved the Bill will be challenged in the Supreme Court.

The move against busing is one of a number of proposed Bills which the Republican right wing is pushing rapidly forward in the new session to enact the conservative social agenda, delayed last year while President Regan's ecomonic programme was being steered through Congress.

Busing is high on this agenda because for nearly two decades it has been viewed by liberals as a symbol of racial desegregation, and by conservatives as a specially outrageous example of federal interference with the personal choices of citizens.

The Bill has already been welcomed by the Senate judiciary committee whose chairman, Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, is a leading Republican hawk.

Senator Lowell Weicker of Connecticut, a liberal Republican, intends to use every possible parliamentary delaying tactic to block the legislation in the Senate and marshal public opposition to the measure.

Moreover, the Bill will not even be debated in the House of Representatives unless its supporters can outflank the liberal House judiciary committee by collecting enough signatures for a discharge petition — a rarely used procedure to force debate on a Bill rejected in committee.

Critics of busing say that bringing black children into schools which were previously predominantly white has lowered standards and inflamed the racial tensions the policy was intended to reduce.

Supporters of busing claim the Bill would undermine the Supreme Court's historic ruling in 1954 outlawing racial segregation. And they say that by stripping federal courts of their power to enforce long-standing civil rights laws, the Bill would be unconstitutional infringement by Congress of the jurisdiction of courts.

President Reagan is against identifiying too closely with the Bill, although he opposes forced busing in principle. But the President is likely to be dragged into the controversy if the Bill is ever approved.

Mr Arthur Flemming, whom the President recently dismissed as chairman of the Commission on Civil Rights, after it published a report calling for stronger administration support of busing, said the commission would ask the President to veto the Bill if it were approved by Congress. If he refused, the Bill would be challenged in court on constitutional grounds.

Demand for purge of left in China

Peking, Feb 4. — A senior Chinese official called today for a purge of remaining leftists in the Communist Party hierarchy as China planned further reductions in radical influence in its bureaucracy.

Mrs Zhang Yun, a member of the influential party disciplinary committee, wrote in the ideological journal *Red Flag* that followers of the disgraced Maoist "Gang of Four" still held high positions and were sabotaging party policy.

Diplomatic sources said Mrs Zhang's article was the strongest appeal for a purge to appear so far in China's two-month-old campaign against bureaucratic practices.

Mrs Zhang, one of the few women in the higher echelons of China's leadership, said getting rid of leftist influence was one of the main problems facing the party. She accused many members of using their position for personal gain.

She said the problem to a large extent arose because the party, now 39 million strong, had doubled in size during the Cultural Revolution of 1966-76, when leftists held almost total sway.

To support her case, Mrs Zhang quoted a speech by Mr Deng Xiaoping, the powerful Vice-Chairman, who said in January 1980: "Among party members who joined the party under the extreme leftist line, some have never been educated by the party. They should not be held up as models for the masses and are not up to standard." Mrs Zhang also quoted from a previously unpublished report by the disciplinary committee which attacked corrupt party members in unusually strong terms.

The reprot also said many officials "have changed from servants of the people to old gentlemen who ride on the backs of the people, tyranically abusing their powers".

Britain tries to stop Vietnam aid by Europe

From David Watts, Bangkok, Feb 4

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, has agreed to use his influence in Europe to try to prevent any further aid going to Vietnam from EEC countries.

The Foreign Secretary gave a pledge to make Thai views known when he met Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Savetsila, the Thai Foreign Minister, today.

Britain and Thailand share the United States view that no assistance should go to Vietnam while its troops remain in Cambodia. Both France and the EEC Commission have given assistance to Vietnam against the wishes of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean).

France has given aid worth £20m and the Commission gave emergency medical aid to Vietnam last December worth £175,000 through non-governmental agencies. The Commission aid was opposed by five EEC countries.

The French assistance, which has particularly annoyed the South-East Asian countries, was given in the belief that Vietnam should be encouraged to give up its dependence on the Soviet Union.

It comes at a time when the French are assuming a more active diplomatic role in Indo-China and before projected contacts at foreign minister level with Hanoi this spring. There is speculation among Bangkok diplomats that the French may be contemplating some *démarche* over the future of Cambodia.

The discussions today were largely confined to statements of the views of both Britain and Thailand about which there is "a broad measure of agreement", both seeing advantage in putting pressure on the Khmer Rouge to join the loose opposition coalition.

The British see the statement of Datuk Sri Mahathir Mohamed, the Malaysian Prime Minister, hinting at withdrawal of support for the Khmer Rouge at the United Nations as a tactical move.

After his meeting with the Foreign Minister, Lord Carrington went on to pay a call on General Prem Tinasulandonda, the Thai Prime Minister. This afternoon he saw Major-General Chatichai Choonhavan, the Minister of Industry, being joined later for a plenary session with the eight leading British businessmen who are accompanying him on his tour of the five Asean countries.

Tomorrow Lord Carrington flies to the Cambodian border to see a refugee camp with 40,000 Cambodians; visit Nong Samet settlement of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, only a short distance from Vietnamese forces; and see a camp holding about 1,000 Vietnamese who have left Vietnam and travelled overland through Cambodia.

At Nong Samet, Lord Carrington will watch a distribution of food and meet British aid workers. Britain and the EEC have contributed more than £30m from public and private sources since the programme to feed Cambodian refugees began.

Britain has recently given £55,000 to the United Nations anti-piracy programme in the Gulf of Thailand. Virtually every vessel carrying Vietnamese refugees to Thailand is attacked by pirates at some point.

In the afternoon Lord Carrington flies to the northern city of Chiang Mai where he will have the rare honour for a foreign minister of an audience with King Bhumiphol Adulyadej.

Peking's offer seen as ploy

Peking. — China's offer to negotiate a time limit on American arms sales to Taiwan was seen by Western diplomats here as an attempt to appear flexible rather than an indication of a wish to compromise.

Expulsion hearing for doctor adjourned

From Trevor Fishlock, Calcutta, Feb 4

A British doctor who has been working for two years among the slum and pavement dwellers of Calcutta appeared in court here today to fight a deportation order.

Dr Jack Preger, who is 51 and was born in Manchester, was expelled from India last summer but returned shorly afterwards in defiance of the authorities to continue his work among the poor.

He was arrested and jailed for nine days in August. He has been carrying on his work while the unhurried legal processes have ground on.

A few minutes before today's hearing Dr Preger's lawyer asked him for some money. The doctor refused, saying he had already been given some, and the lawyer announced he was too ill to take the case. The papers were then given to another lawyer.

In the small, dark courtroom, a nightmare of stacked dusty files, the magistrate looked down at the lawyers and said: "This case must be expedited. Do not be sluggish." He then adjourned the proceedings until Saturday.

Dr Preger, who was educated at Oxford Universty, first came to India in 1979. He had been working in Bangladesh bu was expelled after alleging that a number of children sent to Europe for adoption had been used in pornagraphic photographs.

He started working with mother Teresa's organization in Calcutta and eventually began working on his own, supported by donations from American missionary societies.

Although he had a work permit for some time, the authorities would not renew it and Dr Preger carried on without one until the deportation was served. He believes the Bangladesh Government has asked the West Bengal Government to expel him because he had demonstrated frequently, with placards, at the Bangladesh High Commission office in Calcutta against an alleged trade in children.

Junta's economic battle

Argentina cuts forces spending

From Andrew McLeod, Buenos Aires, Feb 4

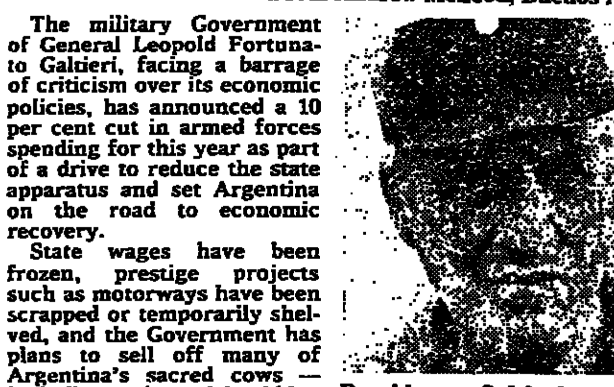
The military Government of General Leopold Fortunato Galtieri, facing a barrage of criticism over its economic policies, has announced a 10 per cent cut in armed forces spending for this year as part of a drive to reduce the state apparatus and set Argentina on the road to economic recovery.

State wages have been frozen, prestige projects such as motorways have been scrapped or temporarily shelved, and the Government has plans to sell off many of Argentina's sacred cows — including the debt-ridden Yacimientos Petroliferos Fiscales (YPF), the state oil company, and the inefficient state telephone company.

The military's budget cuts are seen here as a step in the right direction — about £2,000m were spent on arms purchases between 1978 and 1979, according to calculations by Señor Alvaro Alsogaray the former Ecomony Minister. But many sceptical Argentines recall that a similar denationalization programme was promised six years ago, when the military took power from President Isabel Perón, but was never carried out.

In the eyes of political parties, who scented blood when the military's second President, General Roberto Viola, was overthrown last December, denationalization is akin to treason. Pamphlets deploring the alleged new "colonization" of Argentina were scattered in Buenos Aires streets recently. The junta, determined to keep a firm rein on dissent, made several arrests.

Government officials tend to play down the economic



President Galtieri: Surprised at the vehemence of the criticism

crisis, and Señor Juan Alemann, the Economy Minister, is quietly confident that he will pull the country out of the mire before the end of the year.

But he faces a monumental task: the foreign debt now stands at about £15,000m, foreign reserves fell 50 per cent in a year to £2,000m and the public debt now amounts to about £8,500m.

In addition, inflation is running at 138.1 per cent, among the highest in the world last year, an estimated 1,580,000 are out of work, and there are no unemployment benefits.

In a television interview, Señor Alemann said he would stop printing money in June, get the Government out of business and refrain from interfering in trade.

The question is, will he be allowed to? The Government faces a crisis of confidence in the armed forces, and the army high command jailed General Juan Carlos Ongania, a former military President, for a month for statements predicting an end to the ecomomic liberalism on Argentina. The retired general is said to have the support of some of the more nationalist lower-ranking officers, who are unwilling to see about 40 military-run companies sold to private enterprise.

President Galtieri appears surprised at the vehemence of the criticism directed at his Government so soon after assuming office. When touring a new children's hospital last week he told a group of pensioners who were heckling him: "Remember, I will be an old age pensioner, too, some day". A woman replied: Yes, but you will not be receiving the minimum pension." The President turned away, irritated.

A union official said last week that the patience of Argentine workers was wearing thin. He told the weekly news magazine, *Somos*, that the trade unions had been patient with the two previous military governments "Because we were asked to give the Government time to solve the country's problems ... but the Government did not make use of our cooperation. We were deceived."

The multi-party grouping, which includes the Justicialists (Perónists), the powerful Radicals, the Christian Democrats, the Movement for Integration and Development and the Iintransigent Party, is strongly opposed to the Government's economic policies and is expected to call for a national strike later this week. Perónist sources say the unions have already promised the political parties their support for the strike.

Anger at British 'snub' to acid rain talks

From Tony Samstag, Brussels, Feb 4

European environmentalists are angry at the refusal of Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for the Environment, to attend a ministerial conference on acid rain in Stockholm next June. Of 15 European countries that have so far responded to the invitation, only the British are sending an official of less than ministerial rank.

Collective European anger at the British, who are held responsible for much of the long-range airborne pollution that affects a large area of central and northern Europe, was evident at a seminar on the subject in Brussels that ended yesterday.

Members of the European Environmental Bureau, which represents about 70 national conservation agencies and pressure groups, consistently criticized what they see as a lack of urgency in controlling emissions of sulphur dioxide, in particular. Such emissions tend to concentrate over Scandinavia because of an unfortunate coincidence of airstream patterns and the use of very high smokestacks intended to disperse the pollutants as widely as possible.

Mr Mats Segnestam, executive director of the Swedish Society for the Conservation of Nature, said Mr Heseltine's refusal of the Stockholm invitation was "a scandal". A recent visit to Britain by Mr Anders Dahlgren, the Swedish Minister of Agriculture, had confirmed Scandinavian suspicions that the British were "trying to duck the issue", he added.

The Department of the Environment in London confirmed today that Mr Giles Shaw, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for the Environment, was planning to attend the Stockholm meeting, but, a spokesman added, no snub was intended. "This is the way that ministerial business is conducted", he said. The Government was extremely sensitive to the issue of acid rain.

"Acid rain" is a shorthand expression for the effects of certain kinds of air pollution

CHALLENGE TO HAND GUNS BAN

From Christopher Thomas New York, Feb 4

The influential pro-gun lobby in the United States is about to launch its first important legal challenge against the small Illinois town of Morton Grove, where it has been illegal since last Monday to possess a hand gun.

The National Rifle Association, which has a million fee-paying members and is by far the richest of the pro-gun groups, is financing an appeal by two Morton Grove residents to the Illinois Supreme Court.

The case will centre on an interpretation of the Illinois constitution, which says: "Subject only to the police power, the right of an individual citizen to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

If that fails, the NRA will take its challenge to federal level and argue that Morton Grove's ban violates the Second Amendment to the American Constitution which gives a qualified right to possess arms.

Robin Marris steps up the debate on our universities with an open letter to Sir Keith Joseph and a challenging international comparison of the costs of higher education

Why British graduates are the best value for money in the world

Dear Sir Keith,

I know you are an intellectual person so I am sure you have already read two recent articles in the newspapers concerning your policy of cutting down the universities. The first was in last Sunday's *Sunday Times* and was called "Carry on Cutting, Sir Keith". The next, in this paper on February 2, was called "The Second Battle of Britain".

Both were written by experts from my own university. The cutter is an expert in dentist's materials (a senior lecturer, no less); the defender was our Vice-Chancellor. The cutter, Dr Anselm Kuhn, believes that most university lecturers are a bunch of layabouts, and who am I to argue that this is not his personal experience? It is not, as it happens, my own.

The Vice-Chancellor argued, forcefully, I thought, that the universities are the essence of our culture. But I have the impression that culture or no you yourself regard them as rather like a Rolls-Royce: good, but also expensive and a luxury our poor nation can no longer afford in the style to which we were accustomed.

I am an expert neither in the manufacture of false teeth nor in the administration of universities. I am, however, something of a minor expert in international statistics on the economics of education. In this capacity I recently decided to put British universities to test. Are they, by international standards, unusually expensive or elitist?

To be honest, I rather expected to find there was at least some truth in such accusations. So great is the force of conventional wisdom that I was genuinely surprised to find that almost every number I could lay my hands on seemed to show precisely the opposite. Please see the table.

I cannot believe that you or your predecessors would have embarked on the present course of action had you known these facts. Perhaps the reason they are not more widely appreciated is that they require collation from several different international sources.

I happen to agree with you and your colleagues on a number of important matters. I agree with your own view that educational policy generally needs greater emphasis on value for money, provided that by "value" we mean "output" and by educational output we mean acquisition of learning.

I also agree that public expenditure must be reduced or restrained, if only because in this country the public sector has now become the main engine of inflation. I agree with the principle that in all institutions producing intangibles, such as universities, there is an inherent tendency for input to become excessive relative to output (layabout dons, etc): therefore periodic shake-ups are desirable. One desirable reform for universities the world over would be abolition of security of tenure. Another would be subjecting all departments to periodic peer review.

Your own policies, however, are not at all designed to increase the productivity of British higher education and may in fact reduce it. Your policies are aimed simply at reducing output. How could you ever imagine that this is in the national interest at the present time?

I fear you must be suffering from a particularly unfortunate side effect of the British Disease. Embittered by our national economic failures we turn against the things we do well. One of the things we do especially well, it turns out, is universities. You and your ministers are fond of saying that international comparisons of higher education statistics are invalid. You are wrong.

There is an international standard for educational statistics, and in my table I use the rather precise concept of students enrolled on courses leading to first university degree or equivalent qualification. This eliminates some students at some countries' universities and brings in many of our own students at polytechnics and colleges of education.

Of course there is variation in the quality of a first degree, but unlike you or any of your ministers, Sir, I have taught at universities throughout the world. I have taught American students in hundreds and European students in handfuls.

I have administered an American economics department teaching 6,000 students. These experiences have taught me that there is much more comparability internationally than most people suppose. In any event, if we could make some adjustments for "quality" the results would always tend to favour the UK.

Expensive? It is true that the economic cost of teaching and administration per student enrolled in higher education is comparatively high in this country. This, however, is more than compensated by superior efficiency in the educational process. In Britain, 25 per cent of students enrolled in first-degree courses graduate every year. In other non-communist developed countries the average figure is just under 14 per cent.

No other country comes near the British performance; the nearest is Belgium, with 19 per cent; the lowest developed countries for which there is data are the Italy and The Netherlands, both around 7 per cent.

As a result of this striking discrepancy the real cost of producing a British graduate is well below the European average. (Please see the table; unfortunatley stastistics are not available for comparisons with North America and Japan).

It might be argued that these numbers merely mean that British universities produce inferior graduates. I doubt that you or any other reasonably informed observer would seriously entertain that explanation.

The reason such a high proportion of British students graduate every year compared with other countries is not that they have been taught less but that they have been taught, and have studied, more intensively. They are also, rightly or wrongly, more highly selected. So only a small proportion of those admitted fail to graduate and the great majority graduate quickly, having learned as much or more as students in other countries in a shorter time.

In some other countries, drop-out rates are as high as 50 per cent and average time for successful students is as much as six years.

Elitist? Yes we do indeed have the lowest enrolment of first-degree students of any developed non-communist country. Whether this means we are elitist depends on concepts. In my view a student is a unit of work in progress. The product is the graduate. In the most recent year, 1978, for which I can obtain comparable data from other countries (see table), Britain produced approximately 1.76 new graduates for every 1,000 inhabitants. The world average for the 13 countries in my table was 2.18. The European average (10 countries) was 1.58. The average for North America and Japan was 4.20.

I suggest these results provide not an iota of support for a policy of reducing the number further. If this country is to recover her confidence and prosperity she needs more graduates, not fewer. The fact that the proportion of the population of university age is going through a phase of decline is quite irrelevant. What matters to a modern society is the ultimate stock of graduates per head of population. Any country that allows that statistic to decline is allowing herself to decline.

Polemics concluded, may I now offer you some concrete suggestions? I assume that you will be completely convinced by my argument that we should not be aiming to reduce the cultural level of our society by reducing graduates per capita. So you must at once reverse your policy of physically restraining future student numbers. But you are fully entitled to insist that the anti-inflationary impact of your policies be nevertheless retained.

You can safeguard this by maintaining the cash cuts you have already imposed while letting individual institutions determine their own response. Some institutions may respond by increasing the number of qualified students admitted. Others may opt for cash salary cuts; their individual contribution, as it were, to the battle against public sector inflation.

Some may do both (and given our financial system, it is in many cases impossible to do the one without the other).

I rather think you believe that my policy is what you are already doing. Not so. You are imposing physical limits on student numbers. Almost equally serious is an imputation being put around by the Association of University Teachers: they are saying, Sir, that if a group of academics accepted a voluntary salary cut you would merely reduce the grant to that institution *pro rata!*

My most concrete proposal is a challenge that you publicly deny that incredible suggestion. It is incredible, of course, because it is laid at the door of a monetarist government that claims to believe that in the control of cash, rather than of "real" quantities, is to be found the secret of deflation.

Finally we reach what I know to be your most difficult problem: student maintenance grants. At more than £1,000m a year they are a major burden on central government finance. They are also the envy of the world. They also confer a deserved benefit on the upwardly mobile social classes.

These taxpaying citizens whose children have worked hard to get the qualifications for university admission produce many Tory voters of a type that could easily defect to the Liberal/SDP Alliance. You are well aware that if you reduce the scale of grants, or freeze them in cash terms, you could lose a lot of votes.

So you are trying to produce the same result indirectly by physically restraining university admissions and thus the number of qualified grant applicants. To accuse a politician of cowardice is like accusing a whore of frigidity. But to accuse a Conservative politician of putting party interest above national interest is to accuse God of sin.

I am sure, Sir Keith, you would not like to go down in history with such a thing around your head. Please think again.

The author is Professor of Economics at Birkbeck College, University of London.

1978 Figures	First-Degree Students per Thousand Population	Percentage First-Deg. Students Graduating Annually	First Degrees Awarded Annually per Thous. Population	Total Real Teaching and Admin. Cost per First Degree	University Teachers per Thous. University Students
Belgium	10.9	17.5	1.91	22,303	
Canada	21.7	18.8	4.08		57.9
Denmark	19.3	9.0	1.74	39,666	
Finland	16.0	16.0	2.56		98.1
France	11.7	15.3	1.79	13,764	49.5
Germany	14.6	9.5	1.39	28,516	123.9
Italy	17.2	7.5	1.29	17,027	41.3
Japan	15.6	18.3	2.85		82.3
Netherlands	9.9	7.3	0.72	60,205	94.8
Sweden	13.3	12.3	1.64		
Switzerland	8.7	10.7	0.93		71.1
U.K.	7.0	25.2	1.76	22,507	88.7
U.S.A.	40.8	13.9	5.67		54.9
Average	15.9	13.9	2.18	29,141	76.2

Sources: Unesco, EC (Eurostat) and author's calculations. "Real" costs are calculated by converting money values originally given in national currencies into $U.S. at exchange rates that have been adjusted to reflect each currency's comparative internal purchasing power. First four columns include degree-level students at non-university institutions and exclude University students on non-degree-level courses. Last column relates to all students and teachers at universities only.

Sir Keith Joseph: all the facts?

'If this country is to recover her confidence and prosperity she needs more graduates, not fewer'



Professor Robin Marris: cost-effective graduates

Capitalizing on the comprehensives

I don't know how far journalists associated with the *Morning Star* approve of best-sellerdom, that accolade of the capitalist market-place, but I hope that they are all pleased with their colleague Robert Leeson's recent achievement. Ever since *The Times* began to publish its lists of best-selling books his name has appeared in one chart or another, and now Fontana books are celebrating the sale of the one millionth copy of the three books in his paperback "Grange Hill" series.



Grange Hill: a successful series on television and in print

Properly enough the sale has taken place in a school — in the school bookshop at Blackthorn Middle School, Northampton — and this should be doubly satisfying for Mr Leeson. For while it suits nicely the character of the series as a portrayal of contemporary school life, it also acknowledges the author's acceptance of his audience as a partner in the books' success. Bob Leeson is not merely dismissive of writers who write only for themselves — "the quintessence of bourgeois egoism" — he actively seeks the help of young readers in the planning and writing of his books.

What may also be satisfying to Mr Leeson about his rapidly won fame (the first "Grange Hill" book appeared in 1980) is that it may help to advance his campaign "to change the landscape of children's literature". For the "Grange Hill" books are not just re-tellings of the plots from the successful television series — although the writer of that series, Phil Redmond, is always acknowledged on the book's covers and in their imprints. The stories are instead freshly conceived, self-contained adventures, using the characters known to the television audience.

The existence of this ready-made fictional comprehensive school with its mixture of social groups was a useful ground-plan for a writer who looks to make children's literature more relevant to working-class children — which is what "changing the landscape" seems to be about. For 10 years now Bob Leeson has argued with patience and good humour for children's books which will take account of changes in society and serve as a counterweight to (not a replacement of) the "middle class" literature of times gone by. In several portentous historical stories, and in a lightweight entertainment, *The Third Class Genie* (recently published in hardback by Hamish Hamilton) he also tried to practise what he preached, and in "Grange Hill" he got his chance to expand upon what he calls "the state school story which has to be a community story, as parents, police, others intrude on the daily life of the pupils". (And among those unspecified "others" you may be sure that there also lurk the politicians and activists inseparable from today's notion of "community".)

Unfortunately for the high hopes, and despite the high sales it must be confessed that the "Grange Hill" saga is successful in inverse proportion to the landscaping endeavours of Capability Bob. For sure his contact with the consumers has yielded dividends (if so capitalist a term is permitted). He is very good at the slangy quips of *homo comprehensivus*, and every book contains little incidents of natural comedy, usually inspired by Tucker Jenkins. But as the stories progress from the carefully worked out, carefully timed *Grange Hill Rules OK?* through the pastoral *Grange Hill Goes Wild* to *Grange Hill for Sale*, what craftsmanship there was gives way to a set of predictable manipulations. Plotting is ever more laconic (in imitation of television story-lining?). Characters turn to pasteboard. Political issues fraught with worrying complexity are reduced to plot-maker's cement and stuck on like ornaments round the edges.

It is pointless to speculate if these books about Grange Hill would have sold a million copies if they had not been boosted by the long-running children's soap opera. Their growing resemblance to the mass-market school story of past times suggests that the right kind of formula has been discovered. The landscape is still recognizable. Greyfriars and Malory Towers are not very far away even if there is some attempted rape going on nowadays, and some fascist demonstrations — and even if Mr Leeson can't spell "jodhpurs".

Brian Alderson

Television

Guarded humour

Queen Mary asked him to sing his uncensored version of "When I'm Cleaning Windows", the Russians voted him second favourite to Stalin — which meant, if you think about it, he was probably No 1 — and he was earning £100,000 a year in 1938 as Britain's most beloved film star. It seems George Formby had only one piece of bad luck: his wife, Beryl, was the proverbial ball and chain. She was the business brain, and the bad luck made *him*.

His father, a famous Edwardian comedian, had meant him to be a jockey and sent him off as an apprentice but, when father died, George junior — who had not won a race — took to the boards and before long was fancying one of two clog-dancing sisters from Accrington.

The George Formby Story, presented by *Forty Minutes* on BBC 2 last night, suggested that George never ceased fancying women but, after he had caught Beryl, fancying was as far as he could go. The melon mouth, bear-trap teeth, clattering ukulele and giggling innuendo were the props of a marital prisoner under strict guard, on and off set.

In his films he only managed to kiss one leading lady, Googie Withers, and Phyllis Calvert, who made *Let George Do It* with him in 1940, testified that Beryl's security was so good that he only managed to appear in her dressing room door for a brief but eloquent "'Ee, I'm crazy about you."

That film, in which George, in a dream sequence, punched Hitler on the nose, was said to have raised morale to its highest level during the war. This was the film the Russians saw, which ran for a year, re-named *Dinky Doo*, in Moscow, and which might, had Uncle Joe been a more fair-minded chap, have given a lad from Wigan the No 2 position for a May Day parade.

During the war, where Churchill went George was likely to follow. He was the first entertainer to visit the Middle East and altogether entertained some three million Allied troops. And Beryl went, too.

After the war it all sagged a little but in the Fifties he was back at the top in *Zip Goes a Million* until a heart attack cut him short and Beryl confined him to the house. Beryldene, of course.

Then cancer struck Beryl and she turned to the bottle. Michael Dean, who wrote and narrated this excellent essay in nostalgia, reported that during this period George was about to revolt as Beryl had denied him the solace of the Catholic Church but, in her illness, George stuck by her and testified on television to her contribution.

She died in 1960. George shocked everyone who had not glimpsed the chains or heard the rattle by announcing his engagement to a young Catholic schoolteacher six weeks later. Within two weeks of that, he had a heart attack and died. It had not turned out nice again after all. Now his films and the determined strumming of the George Formby Society ensure that the memory lingers on.

It was a happy, sad story, well produced by Ann Paul with good witnesses in Irene Handl, Tommy Trinder, Bill Logan and Phyllis Calvert: another well-occupied *Forty Minutes*.

Dennis Hackett

Cinema

Masterly vision of moral collapse

The Contract (AA)

Gate, Camden Town

Polish Cinema: The Non-Realists

National Film Theatre

A Girl From Lorraine (AA)

Academy

Deadly Blessing (X)

Studio, Oxford Street; Classic, Haymarket

Hell Night (X)

Classics, Oxford Street, Leicester Square

If there were more picturegoers in the Foreign Office and the State Department, diplomatic understanding of the Polish situation might well be more profound. Looking back over the whole of cinema history, it is not too much to say that at no time have artists so clearly expressed the crisis and the conscience of a nation as did the Polish film-makers from the late Seventies to the end of 1981.

The latest issue of *Sight and Sound* contains one of the last interviews with Andrzej Wajda before the December takeover. The interviewer, Gustaw Moszcz, comments: "In the context of a degenerating political system which encouraged nepotism rather than intelligence, Wajda's cinema was one of the last bastions of hope, honesty, integrity and genuine democratic ideals . . . . His films captivated Polish audiences through their ability to summarize and encapsulate the byzantine complexities of the Polish state, vivid visual statements of the social malaise. Increasingly they became vehicles for dramatic analysis of the collapse of social morality, destroying the lives of private, impotent individuals . . . "

The authorities were keenly aware of Wajda's effort. In 1978 *Index* reprinted parts of a code of practice spirited out by some mole in the Polish censor's office, the year before. "His theatrical and film output and the interviews he gives", concluded the censorship, "demonstrate that, in ideological and political terms, he is not with us. He takes the stand, often met with in artists, of an 'impartial judge' of the history of our days."

Alongside Wajda stands Krzysztof Zanussi, whose films — in particular the triptych formed by *Camouflage*, *The Constant Factor* and *The Contract* — have few parallels as analyses of moral decay and self-deceit. The Contract is the last of them to arrive in London and seems in retrospect the most remarkable. I first saw it at a preview in the Warsaw television studios in the early summer of 1980, at the moment of the first reports of strikes on the Baltic coast. At that time it seemed very remarkable for its outspokenness; but it is only now, with the hindsight of the succeeding 18 months, that we can wholly appreciate this microcosm of a society on the verge of moral collapse.

Like a lot of the most profound social and moral analyses in art — like Sterne, Chekhov, Buñuel or Renoir's *La Règle du Jeu*, with which *The Contract* has some superficial resemblances — it carries its wisdom lightly. For the first time Zanussi works through laughter, and shows himself a master of the comedy that borders on farce.

The film is the story of a wedding party, and of the family and guests who bravely try to keep up appearances even though the bride flees from the altar and the groom ends up setting the house on fire. The opening scene, where the horses of the privileged almost run down an innocent citizen, a little old lady who is only trying to feed the birds, is a metaphor which comes in handy for ulterior reflection: this is that destruction of "the lives of private, impotent individuals".

The marriage begins far from auspiciously as the guests arrive for the civil formalities which precede the church ceremony, though the groom's father beams persistently through every setback. His first wife, the groom's mother, arrives hatchet-faced and unforgiving. The bride's father, some sort of Official, radiates the authentic chill of officialdom and deplores such demonstrations of democracy as inviting his driver to eat with the guests. Foreign relations and friends add to the dismay and confusion; "How damned rude", says the bride's father, "to come here unable to speak a word of Polish".

The comedy builds up as the party moves on to the ritzy villa just built by the groom's father — a cardiologist with some evidently very profitable business sidelines. There are high jinks in the Swedish sauna, a kleptomaniac at large, a couple locked in the bathroom, a pack of fierce dogs on the rampage, the groom drunk out of his mind, the aged nanny wandering off all resentment into the night and snow; and the cat has done something dreadful under the carpet. The groom's father rekindles an old flame for his flamboyant French sister-in-law (Leslie Caron); his wife (Maya Komarowska) looks patiently on, the single representative of comparative sanity and solidity.



Patience against flamboyance: Maya Komarowska (left) and Leslie Caron in "The Contract"

The guest of honour, a Minister, makes a regal descent. Everyone, it turns out, is intent on trading what favours he can. The Minister eyes a seductive woman and asks if it is a car or flat she needs. Everyone is on the make, down to the passing punk who wants a medical certificate to excuse himself from school the morning after. Not even the Church itself can stand outside the universal game of bending, breaking or evading the rules.

Zanussi's structure is masterly. The farce escalates; the laughter grows desperate and suddenly dies away; the calm Komarowska is left alone with the little bride, now returned and chastened, as they wander in the woods. "What has happened — all this mess within us and around us? Where will it lead?" Now, of course, we know.

Zanussi as writer-director is both deep and lucid. His special genius is the ability to pose the most fundamental problems, of how to live, how to discover some constant values for existance (in *The Contract* this is the difficult quest of the hapless bride and groom, central figures in the moral chaos). At the same time he is able to perceive the problems in a large historical context.

This special historical sense has since been demonstrated in his film about the Poland of Pope John Paul II, *From a Far Country*. When it was shown in Venice in September that film was received with some hostility. Last week the Manila Festival gave a fresh opportunity to see it and to discover that with the perspective of the months between we can better recognize the film's stature, alongside Wajda's *Man of Iron*, as an epic witness of Poland's history.

There are some personal footnotes to *The Contract*. Tadeusz Lomnicki, who plays the groom's father, is now barely recognizable as the idealistic young hero of Wajda's early classic *A Generation*; in the years since then he has become an important political figure within the Party. Maya Komarowska, who plays his wife, is still in Warsaw, giving less time now to acting than to organizing food and other relief for internees. The jolly, plump comedienne who sings at the wedding, and is later prominent at the party, is now in prison. She is an actress whose career, except for the Solidarity months, has long been curtailed because of political disapproval: few directors except Zanussi (she also appears in *Camouflage*, though her name is not found on the credit titles) have been prepared to give her work in films.

Next week the National Film Theatre is presenting a short season of some of the less significant Polish films of the past year or so. The most interesting among them are period pieces set in the early years of the century when much of Poland was a part of Imperial Russia — a delicate historical situation (given modern parallels) with which Polish film-makers were long forbidden to deal. Agnieska Holland's *Fever* adapts a complex novel by Andrzej Strug about a frustrated terrorist attempt. Wojciech Marczewski's *Nightmares* is from a novel by Emil Zegadlowicz about a boy maturing in a town under Austrian rule. Filip Bajon's stylized *1901: Children on Strike* draws more obvious contemporary parallels from its story of children striking against receiving religious education in the German language.

Claude Goretta's *La Provinciale* (shown here as A Girl from Lorraine) exemplifies the Swiss director's gentle, affectionate observation in its portrait of an individual fighting for a place in a society that is not so much hostile as merely indifferent. Christine comes from Lorraine, where she cannot find work, in the hopes of finding some opportunity in Paris. The prospects prove, though, little brighter. The men she meets tend to be predatory or seriously neurotic; she finds her own sex resorting to any demeaning means finding a livelihood. In the end she flees back to the old uncomfortable certainties of the provinces.

Nathalie Baye smiles an awful lot, but cannot intimate the depths that Isabelle Huppert gave to Goretta's *The Lace Maker*, so that the whole thing seems finally rather insubstantial.

The schlocky horror shows linger still, with their familiar formulas, much slaughter of teenagers, heavy breathing, irregular footsteps in the night, and cut-up corpses dropping out all over the place. There is frankly not much to choose between them. Tom de Simone's **Hell Night** sticks close to the formula with college kids picked off, Little Indian style, by something nasty in an old dark house. **Deadly Blessing**, directed by Wes Craven, fishes a lot of red herrings out of the conflict between an obscurantist backwoods religious sect and newcomers with tractors, every mod con and Jezebel lingerie to torment the flesh of the God-fearing.

David Robinson

Concert

The voice of magic

BBCSO/Gielen

Festival Hall/Radio 3

I imagine the Festival Hall was so empty on Wednesday simply because most people realize that Schoenberg's *Erwartung* is an opera and felt that any concert performance would of necessity misrepresent it. They could not have been more wrong. *Erwartung* staged is one thing, but *Erwartung* out of the theatre becomes entirely an opera of the mind, and for reasons that this performance made quite clear.

To begin with, it had the great benefit of Phyllis Bryn-Julson as the unnamed sole character of what Schoenberg called his "monodrama". Miss Bryn-Julson has the exceedingly rare gift of making angular, atonal melody sound like song and not some sort of agonised raving, and here she was consistently marvellous. Everything was beautifully sung, without lapses into fake expressionist speech-song; everything was clear and audible without any screeching exaggeration of the fact that some fairly extreme emotions are being expressed. The music was simply allowed to do its work.

And I intend no dismissal of Miss Bryn-Julson's magnificent performance in suggesting that its main point was to direct attention to the orchestra. At the first critical juncture of the work, when the first of the four sections is about to end, the woman announces that she will sing, but this is not tautology: we hear her song in a high violin solo, a touching moment enhanced here by Rodney Friend, and we are alerted to the fact that the real drama is going on in the orchestra.

For although, like Wagner and Strauss before him, Schoenberg made his most violently exposed operatic character a woman, establishing a distance that kept art from merging with life and perhaps driving him mad, the great freedom of his atonal style allowed his orchestra to become something much more than the accompaniment it still is for Kundry and Salome. It has its own life as a fantastic succession of melodies, chords and repeating patterns, all of which Michael Gielen brought to tumble out of the BBC Symphony Orchestra in exquisite, delicate, vivid array, proving at last that *Erwartung* is not about a woman deranged but rather about imagining her, remorselessly.

Paul Griffiths

Opera

Too many questions remain

Zaïde

Old Vic

Mozart's *Zaïde* constantly fascinates operatic folk: it consists of 15 musical numbers, but no linking spoken dialogue (being a German *Singspiel* it would not have sung recitatives). The plot is evidently along the lines of Mozart's subsequent *Entführung aus dem Serail*, with a Turkish pasha, a favourite female slave and her West European sweetheart.

There is also Allazim, a renegade Christian, who does not figure in *Entführung*. Indeed, from the clues of the musical numbers it seems that the outcome of *Zaïde* will differ distinctly from what we know in English as *The Seraglio*. The extant music, abandoned long before the finale, is too beautiful to ignore. Adam Pollock, the scenic designer who runs the Musica nel Chiostro company, which gives operas in Tuscany with British forces, took the problem to the writer Italo Calvino in Rome.

The task evidently attracted Calvino, not as a straightforward practical job, viz. work out a text to motivate each musical number, draw the characters roundly, in dialogue that explains who they are, and invent a *dénouement*. It appealed to him as an intellectual exercise in literary choice.

Calvino left the singing characters as in Mozart, singing the original German words, but not actually speaking dialogue. That is done for them by a narrator, presumably Calvino thinking aloud, in this production replaced by Marius Goring who speaks William Weaver's English translation of Calvino's text — and who makes a star turn of the part.

For a while, motivation is easy, though Calvino postulates several *alternatives* for the action leading to Allazim's escape with the two lovers. Is he in love with Zaïde, and why does he protect and accompany them, given that he is the Vizier and confidante of the Pasha?

Allazim remains a mysterious participant in the drama, which may be why William Mackie made so little of a not unsubstantial part. Towards the end of the second half, the possible solutions proliferate, some of them manifestly unacceptable (Goring visualizes the author's doubts delightfully, toying with the situation in a vein of gentle self-mockery), none of them a true solution.



Donald Cooper

Musical chance: Deborah Rees, Adrian Thompson

Calvino's musings have threatened to drift away into poetic nothings, and that is how his version ends: he refuses to decide on a conclusion, and Goring is left seated on a balcony above the singers, dreamily ruminating about jewels and odalisques, and the *dramatis personae* of an operetta that never was.

To duck the issue seems to me an act of intellectual dishonesty, or at least a cheat, and thoroughly disappointing — not least because he refuses to consider the possibility (evidenced by the title of one such *Singspiel*) that Allazim is father to Zaïde.

We may assume that Gomatz is her brother, though that makes a good case for her accepting the Pasha's courtship. Her brother could be the *Pasha*, a possibility worth the narrator's investigation, if he were not lost in his poetic doodling.

At least we get to see and hear Mozart's music for the piece, affectionately conducted by Jane Glover, statuesquely enacted because the drama remains in cold storage, and tolerably well sung by Deborah Rees (over-parted in the heroine's two big arias), Adrian Thompson and Neil Jenkins, two forthcoming tenors, the former sadly unheroic in appearance, and Robert Dean, not bassy enough of voice for Osmin's one aria, though vividly interpreted.

Graham Vick stages Calvino and Mozart without stage trappings. The set is the Old Vic's sad sale of wardrobe, reasonable for an exercise in theatrical tactics. It is not the justification of *Zaïde* that I hoped to experience.

William Mann

Theatre

Walking a nervous tightrope

Murder in Mind

Strand

As I last quit this building 10 years ago to write off a show which has been running ever since, I would be glad to look with a kindlier eye on the entertainment which has slid into the space vacated by *No Sex Please: We're British*. But after sitting out Terence Feely's thriller I have to give this up as a vain hope.

The evening opens ominously with the return of a wide-eyed, febrile Nyree Dawn Porter to a multi-doored hall, panelled in the homicidal baronial style, to pour out her day's disasters in a phone conversation which we are conveniently allowed to hear too. Her plane has just gone down in flames. On comes Roy Dotrice claiming to be her husband, only to be met with a torrent of terrified denials in which she thoughtfully includes more information for our benefit. The house has 40 acres of parkland, for instance; she is in the art-marketing business which she shares with her husband, sister, and cousin, none of whom, she quavers, bears any resemblance to the sinister trio now making themselves at home with her decanters and combination locks.

They are after the loot, they say, taking away her telephone, locking her in the bathroom, and then reluctantly releasing her for a police examination when they can barely make themselves heard above her hammering from up above. They sail through the Sergeant's identification tests, down to the last strawberry mark, and then resume the attack when they have closed the door on the law.

Why did she have two tickets to America? What is the new combination number? Where is George? Pause, while they collect their shotguns to scour the 40 acres for George. However, Geoffrey Davies is back in a flash, reminding her of how her cousin Peter used to torture her as a child and resuming the game with a bottle of nitric acid (a prop which blossomed into one of the evening's favourite running gags).

Another panic phone call brings her doctor to the rescue — a paternally unflappable Basil Hoskins who appears to be the brains of the operation, and quickly brain-washes her into a family reunion; though even he is briefly thrown off his stride when George's body falls out of a cupboard. "Things are going a bit wrong," as one of the gang remarks.

Nobody could deny that. You expect Byzantine complications in this kind of show, but Mr Feely's trick of presenting a group of people who may or may not be what they seem has given Anthony Sharp's company a hopeless task. They have no characters to play; all they can do is walk a nervous tightrope between villainous masquerade and family feeling. As a result, the only watchable performance comes from Philip Lowrie, who has the advantage of playing a real policeman.

Irving Wardle

Chee-Chee

King's Head

Situation comedies were around before television packaged them in half-hour sequences. While working his way to a calculated disruption of the theatrical experience in *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, Luigi Pirandello was not above turning his short stories into short plays, as if anticipating ITV.

Perhaps he anticipates a bit more than that with hints of the anti-illusionist games of his later plays, but what he disrupts in *Chee-Chee* is love's illusion, displaying the reality of the confidence trickster who manages to make money and love out of his practised use of personal charm and private debts.

The structure could hardly be simpler, but there is still a gap in Vladomir Mirodan's lunchtime production which style and energy should fill. Yet the symmetry of the rather trivial writing is satisfying on its own. Chee-Chee is a man about town (Kevin Moore), visited by Commander Squatriglia, who has benefited financially from some obscure transaction. His visit of courtesy inspires Chee-Chee to a minor fraud intended to regain three promissory notes from a woman of his intimate acquaintance.

The poor commander, a flustered Neil McCarthy, is set to slandering Chee-Chee in order to destroy his credit, and buy back the IOUs at a discount. Obscure reasoning leads the commander to his task, but the neatness of Pirandello's psychology only reveals itself when Chee-Chee returns to slander the commander and appeal for the woman's sympathy, which Barbara Berkery enthusiastically supplies.

Pirandello retains a sardonic view but the production is more earnest than enthusiastic. Although it is enlightening to see what Pirandello was doing before he was 40, his maturity was more impressive, and what London lacks is major productions of the major works. *Chee-Chee* is a mere pleasantry.

Ned Chaillet

Aldeburgh branches out

The Aldeburgh Festival is to be expanded to include ballet and drama as well as concerts and opera as part of an attempt to bring it new life and increased interest. In addition jazz and folk music will play an important part in the activities at the Snape Maltings. The aim is "to ensure that the Maltings becomes one of the most exciting and special centres for the performing arts in the country" said Lord Inverforth, chairman of the Aldeburgh Festival-Snape Maltings Foundation, yesterday.

The appointment was announced of three new associate directors to swell the number to eight, led by Sir Peter Pears. They are Murray Perahia, John Shirley-Quirk and Simon Rattle.

The foundation at present has a deficit of £120,000, but Lord Inverforth is optimistic about its financial survival as well its artistic success. The Foundation is expected soon to announce a "windfall" which will cover its immediate financial difficulties.

The spring programme will include visits by the Adolf Friedriks Bachkor from Sweden, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, the Midnite Follies Jazz Orchestra, the Orchestra of St John's, Smith Square, and Northern Ballet Theatre. An unusual departure for the Maltings, in April, will be the only concert outside London of the folk-singer and song-writer Carole King.

The Aldeburgh Festival will run from June 11 to 27 and will include a new production by Kent Opera of Britten's arrangement of *The Beggar's Opera* as well as first visits to Snape by the Royal Shakespeare Company — performing anthologies — Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra.

David Watt

Roy Jenkins: the ayes have it

For the first year of their existence, the Social Democrats have done pretty well with their polycephalous leadership. An effective composite picture can be made out of Mr Jenkins' weight and experience, Dr Owen's drive and energy, Mr Rodgers' solid political judgement, and Mrs Williams' extraordinary public appeal.

Admittedly we have occasionally caught glimpses of a rather less glamorous beast, possessed of Mr Jenkins' fastidiousness, Dr Owen's bad temper, Mr Rodgers' lack of charisma, and Mrs Williams' indecision. ("Has it occurred to you", said Shaw to Mrs Patrick Campbell, "that our offspring might have my looks and your brains?"). Nevertheless, the success of the quadrumvirate has been quite sufficient to prompt the obvious question: why change a winning formula? Why must Dr Owen start stirring things up with tiresome "challenges" and the like? Why start a leadership contest now, and indeed why start one at all?

The answer to the "why now?" part is easy enough. Time is getting on. The constitutional convention of the SDP takes place in two weeks' time and will debate a clause which provides for a leadership election in the early autumn by an electoral college consisting of MPs. It may well be amended to provide that in the first leadership elections the electoral college should consist of the entire membership of the party, but there is no suggestion that the quadrumvirate should be retained.

Another factor is the practical need for a final arbiter with authority to settle disputes, treat with other parties, and provide definitive answers to the media in the crucial eighteen months' run-up to the next election. Surprisingly few wires get crossed (at any rate in public), considering the complexity of the new operations where the party is involved — policy-making, negotiating with the Liberals, building the party machine, and keeping the party's parliamentary end up. But the point is now being reached where none of these different activities can any longer be detached from the others. A view has to be taken for better or worse on the whole stance and direction of the party, and until it has a leader such a view is hard to crystallize.

This last point is also the key to the question "Why have a contest at all?" The fact is that each of the four gangsters represents not only different temperaments but also different aspirations and ways of looking at the future of the party. It is not always easy to separate these strands, but it is important to realize that calculations of personal advantage are only half the story. The half is that four very able and civilized politicians, having risked a great deal together and having already achieved an astonishing amount, are genuinely enjoying something new and significant in each other's company. But an examination of the scene as it appears from their very individual viewpoints may cast some light on the argument.

● **Roy Jenkins.** One of his supporters described him the other day as "an old man in a hurry". The first part of the description is perhaps unkind for a very well preserved 61-year-old, but the "hurry" part is certainly right. Unlike the others, he must regard the next election as his last serious chance of becoming Prime Minister and must therefore hope for more than a mere "hung" Parliament in which the Alliance holds the balance of power and forces through proportional representation ready for 1989 or whenever. The big push has got to



Roy Jenkins: he can handle the Gang

come now. It follows that the Alliance is far more important to him than the SDP as such, and now that Mr Steel has said he will serve under him, the Liberal connection is more valuable than the balance of potentially winnable seats between the two parties — provided, of course, that the SDP catches a respectable minimum sufficient to block a Steel government. Mr Jenkins's disapproval of Mr Rodgers's entirely reasonable warning shot across Liberal bows at Christmas is highly significant.

● **Dr Owen.** He is often accused of ruthless ambition, and no doubt he has a fair share of it. But his main objection to Mr Jenkins is that he (Jenkins) does not see the SDP as a party that is primarily a radical alternative to the Labour Party and is prepared both by temperament and self-interest to allow it to become a predominantly middle-class alternative to the Tories. Dr Owen is often a bit vague about what exactly he means by "radical", and what causes Mr Jenkins ought to espouse in order to get his seal of approval.

On trade union reform, for instance, which ought to be a litmus test and on which they are supposed to be at odds, the two men are, so far as I can see, in agreement on a cautious line which will distinguish them from the Government. Nor is it at all clear that Dr Owen's (as opposed to Mr Enoch Powell's) "radicalism" is what working-class voters want anyway. Nevertheless, on an emotional level, Dr Owen is right. Mr Jenkins, whatever he may have been in the past, is not very radical today, except in the sense that he would like to change the constitution. He is an old-fashioned liberal-minded centrist, and his image, like Campbell Bannerman's, is of a man who still represents

"The accursed power that stands on privilege
And goes with women and champagne and bridge."

This combination may not necessarily turn off the voters of Warrington and Hillhead, but it may not necessarily solve the country's problems and bind up its wounds either.

● **Mrs Williams.** She seems, as so often, to be in two minds. In some moods she recognizes that Mr Jenkins is the only possible leader of the Alliance and therefore of the party. In others she listens to the voices of Dr Owen and her socialist conscience (she is probably the only genuine socialist remaining among the four), which admonish her to shake her head over Mr Jenkins. Her own star naturally also tempts her to run. Neither she nor Dr Owen consider the leadership of the party outside Parliament as much more than a device to console the loser, but she would probably take it all the same if she stands and then loses.

● **Mr Rodgers.** He is a Jenkins man, and though he has a genuine enthusiasm for the SDP and is far warier of the Liberals than Mr Jenkins, he will not wish to have another punch-up with them before Mr Jenkins is safely elected at Hillhead. He has had a love/hate relationship with Mrs Williams ever since they were at Oxford together more than 30 years ago, and at a basic level he probably does not take her very seriously. He is irritated by Dr Owen's tactlessness and pretensions, and is probably human enough to be jealous of his popular impact. He is therefore in favour of the idea that Jenkins should be leader in Parliament — and future Prime Minister — and Mrs Williams leader in the country. If Mr Jenkins were to fail at Hillhead he would presumably run himself and would probably win if the choice lay with MPs.

The conclusions of all this are not very hard to make out. First of all, it is perfectly obvious that Mr Jenkins has got to be leader of the party. He is the only one under whom Mr Steel could serve, but he is also the only one who could handle all the other three of the Gang from the position of leader. The notion that he could somehow lead the Alliance but not the SDP is hopelessly artificial. On the other hand, it is equally obvious that Dr Owen is right to resist a walk-over. There ought to be a contest, otherwise the suppressed strains and resentments among the four will actually grow. A leadership fight will clear the air, legitimize the winner, and validate whichever policies and visions of the future he or she represents. Moreover it will do no harm at all if Mr Jenkins is given a run for his money and is obliged to prove to the members of the party his specifically SDP (as opposed to his Alliance) credentials.

All new parties come to this kind of parting of the ways, after an early period of flux (I would recommend a reading of the Acts of the Apostles to anyone who doubts it). The sooner a democratic decision is taken, the better.

How Mubarak sets the new Cairo style

by Christopher Walker

Cairo
When President Mohammed Hosni Mubarak arrives in London tomorrow, he will be leaving behind an Egypt whose internal mood, style of government and approach to foreign relations has altered significantly since the assassination of President Sadat less than four months ago.

While an increasingly anxious Israeli Cabinet has been quick to coin the phrase "de-Sadatization" to describe what it fears might be a gradual end to the spirit which led to the 1979 peace treaty, Egyptians from every walk of life are fulsome in their praise of the approach being adopted by their workmanlike new leader. Even naturally cautious diplomats have been impressed by the performance of a man many considered incapable of moving so adroitly into the job.

Although large, idealized portraits of the former president still adorn many public places in Cairo (possibly as a deliberate reminder of the cult of personality which he is now blamed for encouraging), little respect is being shown for his memory. At the last count, one academic researcher had already noted 216 new anti-Sadat jokes which have been circulating since his death.

In stark contrast, the 53-year-old President Mubarak — once the butt of local jokes *aimed* at his alleged lack of intelligence — has so far escaped the type of cruel, personalized humour which in the past has so often served as a form of political safety valve for ordinary Egyptians.

Particularly appreciated has been his strict order that members of his family are not to benefit from the presidency and instructions that all pictures of his attractive, half-Welsh wife Susan are to be kept out of the newspapers. This early move accurately pinpointed deep resentment felt at the role played by Mrs Jihan Sadat, and returned to the protocol familiar under Nasser.

President Mubarak has also decreed that there should be no more fawning public advertisements singing his praises, and has swiftly handed the opulent string of rest houses popular with the Sadat entourage back to the nation. One of the luxury residences near the Pyramids was even publicly bulldozed as part of a clearance scheme, a canny symbolic move in a country where the average annual income is still less than £200 a year.

Perhaps the most graphic example of the change in style will come on April 26, the day that Israel is scheduled to hand back the remaining one-third of the occupied Sinai. Instead of the grandiose and somewhat vulgar celebrations which marked earlier handovers of land lost in 1967, Mr Mubarak has banned all pomp and circumstance in favour of a low-key ceremony.

Quick to identify the shaky condition of Egypt's economy as the main problem to be dealt with (and the main threat to the future stability of the government), President Mubarak has quickly inaugurated schemes to cut wasteful spending

Among Egypt's parliamentary and extra-parliamentary opposition, Mr Mubarak has succeeded more effectively than most observers expected in defusing the dangerous tensions which had built up during the final days of President Sadat. His main tactic has been to begin a process of regular consultation while trying to isolate the most extreme Muslim fundamentalists by releasing those detainees like the blind



Shaikh Kishk, not considered an immediate threat.

Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the opposition Socialist Labour Party (which has 12 seats in the 390-seat Parliament), now writes a weekly column in one of Cairo's main newspapers. His party is negotiating with the government about being allowed air time on television and his banned newspaper, *Al-Shaab*, will reappear with presidential blessing on May 1.

Sitting in his offices under a fading portrait of President Sadat, which the Parliament officials have not yet replaced, Mr Shukri spoke warmly of the new approach being adopted to the opposition. "We now have personal access to the President on all important matters, and I know that I can call him any time on the phone."

Further evidence of the new liberalization will come later this month when Dr Hilmi Mourad, the party's deputy leader takes his place at the three-day economic conference being organized by the government in an effort to hammer out Egypt's next five-year plan. Only a few months ago, Dr Mourad was languishing in a 10-man cell, branded as a threat to national security.

As yet, the majority of changes have been ones of approach rather than policy. But their importance comes from the way in which they have identified the main frustrations felt by the 42 million Egyptians. A widely-predicted target of the Cairo economic conference will be the excesses in luxury consumption caused by the 1974 open door economic policy, although in general the policy will remain in force.

Perhaps realizing that moves will one day have to be made to unscramble a subsidy system which costs the exchequer $5,000m a year, the President has insisted that formulation of economic reforms takes the form of a national dialogue, of which the conference will be the focal point. Commenting on its prospects, one diplomat said: "Unfortunately the problems and the remedies are already known. It is just that most are too unpalatable".

Because of the recent slump in the tourist trade, a slowing down in the growth of oil revenues and other factors, Egypt has seen its $1,500m balance of payments surplus in 1980 transformed into a deficit which is expected to reach $500m by the end of the fiscal year in June.

In foreign relations, the widely-predicted move back towards closer ties with the Arab world has begun, with emphasis on semi-private contacts with such potential friends as Saudi Arabia rather than any dramatic gestures. Much energy has been expended on emphasizing Egypt's non-aligned status, while Arab governments have been told firmly that Egypt has no intention of scrapping the peace with Israel.

The gradual rapprochment with the Soviet Union, although watched with intense suspicion from America's Cairo Embassy (its third largest in the world) is seen with more equanimity by west European governments, who seem convinced that an exchange of ambassadors is inevitable in the post-Sadat era. All signs point to a levelling out of the extremes of President Sadat's latter-day policies, rather than any imminent, 180° turn from Egypt's pro-Western position.

Inevitably, economic ministers were at the heart of President Mubarak's first Cabinet re-shuffle last month, the one aspect of his new government which has failed to win much approval from diplomats based in Cairo, anxiously monitoring prospects for the future. There is a strong feeling that it was only temporary in nature and will require a follow-up.

Altogether 12 new ministers were brought in and the main economic post went to Abdel-Fattah Ibrahim, a former governor of the Central Bank who is handicapped by continuing ill health. Uncertainty and lingering doubts prevail among western governments about why Mr Mubarak failed to pick a more impressive team.

As with Mr Mubarak's other policies, the emphasis is on caution, a determined avoidance of the flamboyance and unpredictability associated with Anwar Sadat, and a conscious effort to run a government more responsive to the wishes of the masses.

From a western point of view, doubts about the post-Sadat era are likely to disappear if the new President's performance can match his early promise. But given Egypt's horrendous social and economic problems, it still remains a big if.

From Kanpur, Richard Streeton sums up England's cricket tour of India

The glorious certainty of statistics

Kanpur
Was the Test match series which ended here yesterday between India and England the dullest of all time? Probably not, has to be the answer, though it came fairly close to it.

India won the first match in four days, and the next five all petered out tamely in draws, meaning that 25 days' play had been completely pointless in terms of results.

Most cricket enthusiasts, though, would not summarize what has taken place in recent weeks in those sort of terms. Unlike the United States, for instance, where there is no provision in baseball for a drawn match, a clearcut result has never been considered essential in cricket. In fact many cricket lovers would cite famous instances where a side has managed to stave off defeat and draw among their most vivid memories.

There has, in fact, been a great deal of stimulating cricket played in the Test matches just finished, with some fine batting to enjoy. Everyone will have their own examples of cricket's dullest series but those between India and Pakistan — in Pakistan, 1954-55, and in India, 1960-61 — would appear in most lists. Ten successive Tests were drawn with not a gesture or any attempt made by either side to reach a definite result. There were political and national undertones to these games, of course, but India and England also drew all five Tests in 1963-64 when, as in recent weeks, the pitches were just too perfect.

Cricket's appeal for its devotees has seldom lain solely in the bare result.

It might be an overstatement to say that they do not mind about the outcome of a game but it is a definite fact that the poorest attendances in the County Championship come on the third day when the captains usually try to contrive a clearcut result.

The Indian tour: England's performance

Test Matches: Played 6, Won 0, Lost 1, Drawn 5
All First-Class Matches: Played 13, Won 2, Lost 1, Drawn 10

Batting

	Matches	Inns.	Not Out	Rns.	Highest Score	Av
G Boycott	8	14	5	701	105	77.88
G A Gooch	11	18	3	869	127	57.93
I T Botham	10	14	1	747	142	57.46
K W R Fletcher	11	15	5	524	108	52.40
C J Richards	5	5	4	51	18*	51.00
D I Gower	11	15	2	606	94	46.61
G Cook	5	7	1	257	104*	42.83
C J Tavare	12	17	0	676	149	39.76
M W Gatting	11	13	1	455	127	37.91
G R Dilley	9	10	2	189	52	23.62
D L Underwood	9	8	5	60	22*	20.00
R G D Willis	9	5	3	26	13	13.00
R W Taylor	10	9	1	101	40	12.62
J E Embury	10	10	2	76	33	9.50
J K Lever	7	4	0	34	16	8.50
P J W Allott	5	3	0	10		3.33

*Not Out

Bowling

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Av
D L Underwood	304.1	120	644	25	25.6
J E Emburey	307.1	79	846	32	26.43
R G D Willis	214.1	52	617	21	29.38
J K Lever	189	38	603	17	35.47
P J Allot	144.4	32	463	12	38.58
I T Botham	292.3	63	863	22	39.22
G R Dilley	196.2	25	723	15	48.20

Also Bowled: G Cook 6.5-1-21-2, K W R Fletcher 29-2-121-2, M W Gatting 11-1-40-1, G A Gooch 58.1-14-150-2, D I Gower 5-2-6-1, C J Richards 2-1-5-0, C J Tavare 4-0-18-0, R W Taylor 2-0-6-0.

CATCHES TAKEN BY FIELDSMEN: 10, C J Tavre; 9, G A Gooch; 7, I T Botham; 6, K W R Fletcher; 5, M W Gatting; 3, P J W Allot; G Boycott and J E Emburey; 2, G Cook; G R Dilley, D I Gower, D L Underwood; 1, J K Lever and R J D Willis.

The 1981-82 Tests have been unusual in that in four games the first innings were not completed until the fifth day (in other words, the halfway stage was barely reached) and also for the fact that the number of balls bowled sank to a record average low of around 78 an hour. This is a deliberate modern tactical ploy by the captains to slow down the tempo, and later this year the legislators are expected to lay down a mandatory number of overs that must be reached in a day; but for the million-plus spectators who watched India and England, the overriding consideration was that India should retain their 1-0 lead in the series. A test match nowadays is no longer an entity in itself but is merely a part of a series, with national prestige at stake and settled by the overall outcome. There are already signs in Australia that five-day tests have lost their appeal compared with one-day games and something similar could follow in India in the years ahead — but this is a spectator reaction. In India, where time means so little, that is some way off.

All this series has produced batting records; no game excels cricket for its capacity to yield records and no followers revel in the statistical aspect of the game more than the Indians. There was hardly a day in the series when there was not something statistical to enjoy. In the second Test at Bangalore it was Gavaskar, the King Emperor of Indian cricket, who batted 708 minutes, longer than any other Indian before him, with the crowd loving every moment of the English frustration. In Delhi over Christmas it was Geoffrey Boycott passing Gary Sobers's world record Test career aggregate that claimed the limelight.

Then came Madras, with Viswanath's 222 failing by nine runs to become India's biggest ever Test score. Here in Kanpur there was always the comforting knowledge, in a match that lost ten hours to the weather, that India were about to clinch the series. For Kapil Dev yesterday to make one of Test cricket's quickest centuries was merely a bonus for a full house.

These examples are only a few of the reasons why for the enthusiasts present the 1981-82 series was far from futile. Obviously it was not cricket at its best, but then so much present day Test cricket does not show the game in its best light.

Revealed at last! the . . . . word to upset MPs

Reg Race's f . . . in the House of Commons was in perfect order. The Labour MP for Wood Green, a not excessively boorish Bennite, uttered the four-letter word which is forbidden, in PHS at least, on Wednesday night during the debate on sex shops. The event, if that is what it was, passed without a murmur in the thinly attended House. The couple of dozen MPs present took Race's statement that a sex shop in Lewisham advertised a contacts directory with the slogan "phone them and f . . . them" as grim but unexciting news.

Still, it gave *The Daily Telegraph* parliamentary sketch writer a chance to grab prominence on the front page, and to treat the readers to a display of asterisks the like of which has seldom been seen outside the pages of Marvel Comics.

Race was quoting from a document, albeit an improbable one, and could, before the Speaker's ruling yesterday, say what he liked. It followed that there were no points of order, no shock and no outrage. MPs reserve that sort of reaction for much more polite words which they use about each other. Then words that would not flutter an eyebrow after dinner can be considered totally impermissible. Among them are "blether", "cad", "cheeky young pup" and "not consonant with personal honour". The ultimate four-letter word in the House of Commons is not f . . . but "liar".

THE TIMES DIARY



Congratulations to Peter Tory, my opposite number on the Daily Mirror. *He is either a master of disguise who owns his own clip-on moustache, which can be useful in our profession, or he has the most vigorous growth of hair on any upper lip in Britain. On Tuesday his column was headed with smiling, clean-shaven face. On Wednesday he had sprouted a fine moustache. Yesterday it was gone again. The truth may be that Tory has grown a moustache, but was terrified by what he saw when he looked in the* Mirror *on Wednesday morning. But I shall be keen to see this morning whether he now sports a floppy hat, dark glasses and a pipe.*

Literary labours

PHS regards journalism, if not as an idle occupation, at least as a rather luxurious one. How then does beleaguered Michael Foot find time to write wispy letters to *The Times* like the one published yesterday or embattled Sir Peter Parker to write erudite appreciations of William Blake for this week's *New Statesman*? Should PHS try running the Labour Party British Rail?

Bush House for sale

The Post Office Staff Superannuation Fund is selling Bush House, valued at more than £30m, over the heads of its tenants, including the BBC external services.

The fund's chief executive, Ralph Quartano, the man who blocked Lord Grade's platinum handshake to Jack Gill, said yesterday: "It is correct that we are selling Bush House." But he would give no hint of the purchaser or price.

Doe-it-yourself

Paul Clifford of Wrexham is turning a fast buck, touring the town by van selling rabbit and chips. After a week, customer reaction has been sufficienty favourable to double his fleet and soon he hopes to cover Clwyd, expanding his range of convenience foods to rabbitburgers and rabbit pies.

Clifford and his wife, Jo, found it impossible to make a decent living from their 100-doe rabbit farm. They mortgaged their all and, with the help of a grant from the Welsh Development Agency, set up a rabbit-processing factory able to handle 40,000 animals a week. Rabbit is readily available on most supermarket shelves, most of it imported from China, but Clifford claims that his rabbits, all home-reared, are superior, "not just something you put in a stew".

The meat, long tainted by its association with myxamatosis and wartime substitution for chicken, may be recovering popularity. Last week Simpson's in the Strand restored it to the menu for the first time in 30 years. Theirs is cooked in cream and mushroon sauce and costs £4.50 a portion. For the moment Clifford, selling breadcrumbed joints with chips at 70p, is still avoiding Bugs Bunny versus Captain Birds Eye hostilities by keeping his vans to the byways of Wrexham industrial and housing estates where fish fryers do not venture.

Wait for it

Gustave Ledun, director of the armagnac brandy producers' association, was lunching at that most English of establishments, the RAC Club, and though the menu is in French, he seized directly upon potted shrimps and grilled Dover sole.

The only fish available in his region of Gascony, he says, are tench, and the trick of cooking them is to steep them alive first in milk and then in armagnac. This sounds too cruel for English taste, though not much crueller than the RAC's sommelier. When asked for armagnac, he said: "That's the drink they make from cognac, isn't it?"

A certain disability

The Royal Institute of British Architects wish to improve access for the disabled to their Grade II listed headquarters in Portland Place. At present there is a metal ramp, which they want to replace



with a permanent stone ramp to give access to wheelchairs.

They applied for planning permission from Westminster council on October 14. It was the third week in January before statutory notices about the change appeared on lamp-posts outside the building. The matter has yet to go to a committee for consideration.

While it is plainly right that architects could not be trusted to design anything so simple as a wheelchair ramp for their own building, it does seem that Michael Heseltine's attempts to cut down on planning delays face another setback.

PHS

THE TIMES
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OPTING OUT OF THE NHS

Private medicine has been one of Britain's few boom sectors during the recession. The number of subscribers to private insurance schemes rose by more than 14 per cent last year, and the building of small private hospitals has gone forward at a brisk pace. One person in every 14 is now covered: but by the same token, 13 in every 14 are not. The continuing financial problems of the National Health Service contrast sharply with the flourishing condition of the private sector. Many who never shared the wholesale left-wing hostility towards private medicine are beginning to wonder whether such a rapid growth may not after all be a threat. This week the Royal College of Nursing, which said in 1975 that the private sector should be allowed to develop outside the NHS in response to market forces, called for new controls to ensure that the development does not undermine the NHS.

In the short term, it is feared that the growing number of private hospitals may poach expensively trained manpower from the NHS by offering higher wages. But a deeper fear is that the rise of private care will bring about, without anybody actually intending it, a state of affairs which the great majority would deplore — a vicious circle where private medicine became the usual option for a substantial proportion of citizens, with the NHS becoming increasingly neglected and impoverished because of a diversion of public pressure to maintain standards. In general terms this prospect is still remote. In any case patients with private cover are likely to look to the NHS for some of their medical needs, such as long-drawn-out nursing care. But there are signs of a vicious circle in some sectors where waiting-lists for painful but non-acute conditions may be years long. Allegedly, private treatment buys comfort and convenience rather than better medical care, but already today the distinction is an academic one in too many cases.

The NHS deserves protection: As a comprehensive system without frills but strong in essentials, it is popular because it is fair. No other country manages to provide equally good care as economically. But as taxpayers we have not been prepared to fund it to a level where it could provide a service as good as private medicine can in the areas where the latter excels. As buyers of insurance, many are ready to pay much more in addition to their taxes. Indirectly these extra funds (more than £160m last year) relieve pressure on the state service, if the threats of poaching of staff and a widening disparity of standards can be averted.

There are many ways in which it is possible for the two sectors to reinforce each other, and there would be many more were it not for the sense of division left over from the pay-beds controversy of the mid 1970s. It was that controversy which launched private medicine in a direction that made it increasingly difficult for it to supplement rather than threaten. The attitudes which brought the 1974 conflict to a head are still very much alive. Last year's Labour Party conference voted to abolish private practise inside the NHS and outside it. Whatever the Labour Party's chances of giving such intentions legislative form, several trade unions with many members in the NHS are hostile to private practice. But except for an illiberal minority able to envisage the expropriation of hospital trusts (to acquire beds that the NHS does not need) or the outlawing of private medical care, the future must be seen to be one of coexistence between the two sectors. If two sectors are to exist, there is an overwhelming economic, medical and social case for bringing them into as close a partnership as possible.

The Royal College of Nursing tentatively proposes that future private development should be located in or near NHS hospitals, though in separate buildings. The private sector is understandably wary of giving hostages to fortune in this way, but in principle the proposal is sensible. The physical separation between private and NHS hospitals wastes many hours of doctors' time, necessitates duplication of beds and equipment and sharpens feelings of resentment and prejudice.

It is essential that the private sector pay its full share of all NHS facilities it uses: the benefits of the private contribution would be more visible if a share of it went not to swell national funds but to the local hospital itself and to staff involved in providing the service. A private contribution to training costs might also help to restore goodwill, though it is no more logically necessary than a special levy on industry to support education: taxation is designed to take care of that already. The state system, in turn, should publicize and develop amenity beds and other devices that bring it close to what the private system can offer. Both sides should be ready to move towards a mutually beneficial partnership. Political hostility to that process would only hasten the growth of the very polarization it seeks to prevent.

HERR SCHMIDT'S POLITICAL REFLATION

Chancellor Helmut Schmidt is playing for high stakes in making his job-creation package the subject of a vote of confidence in the Bundestag today. Yet the measures he has introduced are cautious in the extreme. Although they provide some response to the demand from German unions that something must be done about unemployment, they will have only a small effect. They are a way of heading off more drastic action rather than a solution to Germany's unemployment problem, which with 1,900,000 out of work is getting more and more serious.

The new measures are expected to cost the German government about £3,000m spread over three years. At £1,000m a year that is a much smaller dose of reflation than the CBI and Cabinet wets here would like. It is far less than the job creation programme brought in by the Mitterrand government in France.

The net effect of the German action will be even less, because Value Added Tax is being increased from the middle of next year to pay for the programme. The result will be to increase public spending and increase taxes; hardly Keynesian reflation, more a case of supply side economics in reverse.

The government's aim is two fold. It wants to encourage investment with public money in the private sector to increase the economy's long-term ability to grow. And it wants to do something special at the same time to create jobs, especially for the young unskilled who have been hit by the decline of the construction industry. The investment part of the package is the more important. The government hopes that its assistance will encourage the private sector to put up its own money, so that the total amount of investment will be ten times as large as the government contribution.

Past experience suggests that things will not be as simple as that. The effects of a similar programme in the mid-seventies were disappointing. They showed that the private sector is less impressed by government packages of this kind than it is by prospects for the economy as a whole. These cannot be greatly influenced by small changes of this kind in the level of government activity. Herr Schmidt shows no sign of being interested in really large reflation as a way out of Germany's economic problems. The difficulties which have faced M Mitterand in France will have confirmed him in this view.

Much more important to the German economy than the government measures will be what happens to interest rates. In Germany it is generally reckoned that a one percentage point drop in interest rates has the same effect as £2,000m of extra spending or tax cuts. And although job measures for the young can give short-term help, there is no basis on which Germany can hope to bring its unemployment down without a general world recovery.

The economic measures being adopted by the Chancellor are not really economic at all. They are an attempt to force his own party to back him in a confidence vote. Their very insignificance is part of their attraction. By showing that he can call and win a vote of confidence he hopes to end the constant bickering which has become such a feature of the coalition in recent months. Whether that vote alone will be enough to restore the coherence of the coalition in the months ahead is a question of direct concern to the rest of Europe and indeed to the rest of the world.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Claims to Alliance leadership

From Lord Tordoff

Sir, Your first leader today on "who is to lead the Alliance" concentrates naturally on who is to lead the SDP, a matter which Liberals should leave well alone. But insofar as it dwelt on the subsequent leadership of the Alliance, you severely understated the position of David Steel as having "many supporters as Alliance leader among the general public". The last poll on this topic (Gallup, December 11, 1981) gave him a huge lead over any of the SDP's leadership, a preference echoed even among SDP supporters.

The percentage figures as to "who do you think would be the best leader of the Alliance?" were as follows:

	All voters	SDP voters	Liberal voters
David Steel	39	38	68
Shirley Williams	22	24	14
Roy Jenkins	13	21	4
David Owen	8	7	5
William Rodgers	1	1	0
Don't know	17	9	9

Before you consider who is to lead in government, you have to determine who would best lead the Alliance to victory and into government. For that reason Mr Steel's claim should not be written off so casually. The public recognises him as the consistent advocate of many of the policies now being adopted by the SDP and as perhaps the main architect of the Alliance itself. All that has to be set in the balance against the undoubtedly superior experience of Roy Jenkins. (Although it may be thought that that experience might be best used to the country's advantage at the Treasury.) Meanwhile this factor does not seem to influence voters unduly, since in the same poll Mr Steel was ahead of both Mrs Thatcher and Mr Foot as currently the most preferred Prime Minister.

Yours faithfully,
TORDOFF,
House of Lords.
February 2.

Submission on Civil Service pay

From Mr Bernard Gottlieb

Sir, Today's first leader (February 3) makes an unprecedented attack on the probity of senior Treasury civil servants and by implication on the laxity of Government ministers. I hope that, as you suggest, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, or better still Mrs Thatcher as Treasury First Lord, will respond to your challenge quickly.

Senior civil servants have never negotiated with unions about their own salaries.

Whatever the merits of what the Government conceded at the end of last year's strikes or the line of its evidence to the Megaw Committee, should one assassinate Treasury messengers simply because they bring news of Government decisions?

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD GOTTLIEB,
The Reform Club,
Pall Mall, SW1.
February 3.

From Mr Peter Hordern, MP for Horsham and Crawley (Conservative)

Sir, If you are right to surmise that the Treasury evidence to the Megaw committee on Civil Service pay shows that the 4 per cent limit on pay increases does not mean what it says, and that any extra sum negotiated by the Civil Service may come simply from the contingency reserve, then we are in a serious position. Serious because the practice of pay in the Civil Service being established through a sophisticated comparability exercise with the private sector makes it so.

Between 1970 and 1981 wages and salaries per unit of output in manufacturing industry quadrupled. This is a far worse record than any of our industrial competitors, and has surely led to the very high number of those now out of work. The Clegg awards in public sector pay, and other comparability exercises, however, seem to have taken no account of the dreadful but inevitable consequences of too much pay in our productive industry. They have simply forged ahead regardless.

In 1980-81 Civil Service pay rose by 23.5 per cent to £4,627m. In the NHS pay rose by 31.3 per cent to £5,286m, in 1980-81, having risen by 21.7 per cent the previous year, although these increases probably reflect the extra 67,000 people recruited since June 1979. Public corporations, apart, that is, from the nationalised industries, increased their pay in 1980 by 16.6 per cent to £2,007m, universities by 21.4 per cent in 1979-80, followed, if Sussex University is a guide, by 23 per cent in 1980-81; and polytechnics by 26.1 per cent in 1980-81.

In engineering, in construction, in production of motor vehicles and steel, our output is significantly less than it was ten years ago. What kind of system can it be that allows pay in the public sector to be compared to the ruinuous increases paid in the productive sector, which has put so many out of work in industry, while the numbers are still growing in central government as a whole? Surely the only comparability exercise for the Government service that is valid *is the comparison with what the* country can produce and can afford. And that cannot be more than 4 per cent.

Yours faithfully,
PETER HORDERN,
House of Commons,
February 3.

Devolution option for Ulster

From Mr William McDowell

Sir, David Watt's thinking on Ulster (feature, January 29) seems somewhat incoherent. He correctly perceives that the likelihood of a Government initiative on Ulster managing to establish a devolved Assembly is extremely remote. It is also made clear in his article that neither the DUP nor the SDLP can at present be expected to help make such a legislature work and furthermore the "moderate" parties are too weak to be of any effective assistance to such a scheme. But somewhat strangely the aforementioned points don't lead Mr Watt to conclude that devolution for Ulster, at least for the time being, is too dangerous to be attempted.

There is, on this, one point he fails to mention (the significance of which seems to be missed by many, both in and outside of the province) that with unemployment in Northern Ireland at nearly a fifth of the total workforce the atmosphere generally is too pessimistic to allow for such visionary institutional goals to be achieved.

Mr Watt also suggests that direct rule has failed Ulster in the long run, when in actual fact it is just beginning to succeed. The IRA played their ultimate cards last year — the hunger strike and the murder of the Unionist South Belfast MP, the Rev Robert Bradford. The worst is over. The British Government needs to stand resolute and patient.

David Watt concludes by writing, "we have now reached a *point where the riskiest policy of* all is to sit tight and do nothing"; but this is not what the integrationists are asking for. It would be best for the Conservatives to do what they originally proposed in their manifesto: "In the absence of devolved government, we will seek to establish one or more elected regional councils".

Mr Prior should establish a regional council, and if that move proves after a few years to have been successful, well, who knows what the future holds? The important point always to remember is that Ireland's problems can't be solved quickly; if there is a solution it will take years to come about. Ulster is not another Rhodesia.

Yours etc,
W. McDOWELL
Bloomfield,
Belfast.
January 29.

The Tawney tradition

From Professor Antony Flew

Sir, Several correspondents have either asserted or challenged the right to Tawney's name of a society which is supposed to be social democratic, as opposed to democratic or any other sort of socialist. Certainly there can be no doubt but that R. H. Tawney himself was a Clause IV socialist, fully committed to the eventual "public ownership of all the means of production, distribution, and exchange."

Thus in his *Equality*, first published in 1931, several times reissued but never either disowned or even substantially revised, he argues that a majority Labour government must nationalize all of what Lenin in 1923 and Hugh Gaitskell in 1959 called "the commanding heights of the economy" (chapter V). In the following chapter he adds: "If it succeeds in doing that, the mopping up of the remainder will follow in good time."

Of course, some of us who greatly admire R. H. Tawney might try to argue that, had he lived longer, practical experience of nationalization in Britain would have led him to change his mind. Certainly too his commitment to democracy always came before his commitment to socialism. In that same chapter VI he continued: "If these laudable improvements leave the British public cold, an enlightened minority have neither the right nor the power to force them down reluctant throats."

Nevertheless it was surely at least imprudent for people who want us to believe that the SDP is not socialist to call their substitute for the Fabian Society the Tawney Society.

Yours faithfully,
ANTONY FLEW,
University of Reading,
Whiteknights,
Reading.
February 2.

Arsenii Roginskii

From Professor Geoffrey Best and others

Sir, We are very disturbed by reports reaching the West about the recent trial in Leningrad of our professional colleague, the historian Arsenii Roginskii.

Roginskii was one of the outstanding students of the internationally known linguist and literary historian, Yurii Lotman. Since his graduation in 1968, he has published a number of distinguished articles on nineteenth and early twentieth century social thought in Russia, some of them in the West.

In June 1981 his reader's ticket to the Leningrad Public Library was revoked on the gounds that he had "used material from the manuscript departments for illegal publication abroad". He was subsequently arrested, and in early December sentenced to four years' imprisonment by the Leningrad City Court under Article 196 of the RSFSR Criminal Code, which deals with the forgery of "official documents which confer rights or exempt from obligations". The documents in question appear to have been letters from official institutions requesting access for him to certain archives.

As professional historians, we are seriously concerned that Roginskii should be charged with an offence which appears to signify no more than that he was trying, under very adverse conditions, to continue carrying out his professional duties. Neither foreign publication nor the attempt to gain access to archive sources can be regarded as criminal offences. The right which Roginskii wished to exercise was one he already had under Article 46 of the Soviet Constitution, which guarantees citizens "use of artefacts of culture", to be ensured by their being made "generally available in official and public collections". If indeed he misused official documents in the process, then this is at most a misdemeanour committed under stress and warranting no harsher penalty than a period of exclusion from the archives concerned.

We would urge the Soviet judicial authorities to reconsider the case of Arsenii Roginskii, and to dismiss the charges against him on appeal.

Yours etc,
GEOFFREY BEST, R. H. HILTON,
MAURICE CRANSTON, DAVID MARQUAND,
R. H. C. DAVIS, BRIAN PULLAN,
G. R. ELTON, E. P. THOMPSON,
RODERICK FLOUD, DOROTHY THOMPSON,
J. A. S. GRENVILLE, D. CAMERON,
NORMAN HAMPSON, STUART WOOLF,
JAMES JOLL, JOHN VINCENT.
Department of History,
University of Essex,
Wivenhoe Park,
Colchester.
February 2.

Stalemate in Cyprus

From Mr O. F. Muftizade

Sir, In the last paragraph of your analysis of Turkey's European credentials (leader, January 29) you suggest that the Turkish Government should "be seen to make a serious and urgent effort to reach a solution to the Cyprus conflict" which would enable it to withdraw its troops from North Cyprus.

Notwithstanding the fact that the present Turkish Government has been making both *behind the* scenes and visual efforts to contibute to the success of the current peace exercise in Cyprus — rendering support to Dr Waldheim's evaluation, to mention but one — you seem to have missed a vital point over this issue: Greece, too, must make meaningful and visual efforts if an honourable agreement between the two partner communities in Cyprus is to be achieved, in which case, as your leader points out, a withdrawal can be possible, since the all-important "security" issue will no longer prevent it.

However, in the same issue of *The Times*, your own correspondent quotes Greece's socialist Prime Minister, Mr Papandreou, as declaring that "Cyprus is part of the Hellenic nation". I believe that even the most ultra-nationalist Greek politician would have thought twice before making such an outburst about bi-national Cyprus at this delicate stage.

I feel I am justified in expecting *The Times* to be more sensitive and factual in apportioning the blame for the current stalemate in Cyprus.

Yours faithfully,
O. F. MUFTIZADE,
London Representative of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus,
28 Cockspur Street, SW1.
January 29.

Canada's constitution

From Chief Roger Jimmie and others.

Sir, we, the undersigned Chiefs, write to express our concerns at the contents of your leading article "All clear for patriation" (January 30).

The article drew attention to the fact that the claim made by the Indian Association of Alberta has been rejected by the Court of Appeal. It implied that, subject to further appeal, the effect of the judgment is to leave no Indian *claims* pending in the English courts.

That, however, is not in accordance with the facts. The claim made by the Indian nations of British Columbia, Manitoba and Ontario (their writ was issued on December 10, 1981) has yet to be considered by the courts in this country.

The plaintiffs are seeking to expedite the hearing of their case, which is based on very different grounds from the Alberta claim. It argues that any legislation to patriate the Canadian Constitution requires the consent of provincial legislatures and of the Indian nations.

Under these circumstances it is not unreasonable to expect that the British Government, which indicated its willingness not to press ahead with the Canada Bill until the Alberta appeal could be heard will adopt a similar approach to the present litigation.

Yours sincerely,
Chief ROGER JIMMIE (Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs),
EDWIN B. BRUYERE (Fort Alexander Reserve, Manitoba),
DENNIS (Dakota Tip Reserve, Manitoba),
TOMMY GESNO (Fort Hope Reserve, Ontario)
GRAND CHIEF WALLACE (Nishnauiki Aski' Nation, Ontario),
DAVID HUNT (Kwakiutl Band, Kwakiutl Nation, British Columbia),
Office of First Nations,
2 The Mansions,
Bramham Gardens, SW5.
February 1.

Right objectives

From Mr Ronald Spark

Sir, I was appalled by the sanctimonious letter (February 3) in which Mr Alexander Chancellor, Editor of the *Spectator*, revealed that he had rejected an advertisement from Mr David Irving because of its "extremist" nature.

I know little or nothing of Mr Irving. It is a matter for personal judgment whether his views are extremist. But, provided he remains within the bounds of the law, he is entitled to express his opinions. He is entitled to seek to reach like-minded individuals without the stamp of Mr Chancellor's approval.

The *Spectator* depends for its existence on freedom of information. Mr Chancellor has lately begun to contribute a column to a daily newspaper.

It ill becomes him to play the censor and deny to others the democratic rights he himself enjoys.

Yours truly,
RONALD SPARK,
19 The Rotyngs,
Rottingdean.

The wage-inflation bind

From Professor Geoffrey W. Maynard

Sir, On the face of it, Professor Meade's proposals (Business feature, January 20) for the conduct of macro-economic policy represents a significant change from the past, at any rate the past up to 1979. Instead of fiscal and monetary policy being used to manage the level of real demand in the economy whilst the control of inflation is left to incomes policy, Professor Meade now proposes that fiscal and monetary policy should control nominal demand whilst intervention in the labour market is aimed at regulating employment. However, whether the new proposals would make much difference in practice depends on how the Government would behave if more rational money wage-fixing arrangements cannot be introduced or, if introduced, break down, so that the country is faced, as so often in the past, with a money wage explosion. On this issue, if his own words are to be our guide, professor Meade seems in danger of undermining his own proposals.

In reply to some criticisms of his proposals by Professor Kaldor (letter to *Financial Times*, December 30, 1981), Professor Meade in effect tells us that if a target of, say, 10 per cent per annum growth in nominal GDP has been set, and money wages then rose by say 30 per cent, he would not advocate restraining the rise in GDP to 10 per cent since this would result in falling employment.

If this were generally understood to be Government policy, then not only would the response undermine the aim of maintaining a stable growth of nominal money expenditure, but it would gravely prejudice the task of enforcing or maintaining the more sensible money wage-fixing arrangements which are at the heart of Professor Meade's proposals. It has surely been the willingness of most governments in postwar Britain to accommodate inflationary money wage and unrealistic real wage demands that has been at the root of Britain's inflationary problem; and, in the end, the accommodation did not prevent the rise in unemployment.

If the policy of our present Government represents a radical break from the past, as I believe in some respects it does, it lies not in its adoption of "monetarism" — a mere glance at monetary statistics should dissuade us from this belief — but rather in its unwillingness to accommodate; and for this it should be applauded.

As the SDP picks and chooses between various aspects of policy pursued by previous Labour and Conservative governments this particular feature of present policy should certainly not be disregarded.

Yours faithfully,
G. MAYNARD,
Vice President,
The Chase Manhattan Bank, NA,
Woolgate House,
Coleman Street, EC2.

Proper names

From the Reverend Kenneth Leech

Sir, The late Father Neville, SSF, an Anglican Franciscan who worked in the East End of London, was widely known and much loved by people of many nationalities, including seamen in other countries, many of whom had never seen his name written. Letters addressed to him included Father Nivel, Navel, Nibble, Nobel and Nable, and one was addressed to (Mr Fadernebble, Cable Street, London". It arrived without any difficulty.

Yours sincerely,
KEN LEECH,
General Synod,
Board for Social Responsibility,
Church House,
Dean's Yard, SW1.

Housing policy

From the Director-General of the National House-Building Council

Sir, Neil McIntosh of Shelter repeats (February 2) the fiction — for that is what it is — that tax concessions to home buyers have discouraged investment in productive industry. The facts are otherwise.

A. J. P. Taylor has correctly stated that a boom in house production in the 1930s from below 210,000 in 1931 to 365,000 in 1936 helped to lead the nation from the slump. In the post war period, the years of high new house production have been years of relative prosperity. By contrast in the last two years, when house prices were static and housing starts were at exceptionally low levels, industry generally was in recession.

As for the decline in rented housing, the fact is that in an inflationary society, home ownership leaves the inflationary gain with the individual: renting leaves it with landlords, public or private.

It is relevant that £50m spent now on assisting council tenants of below average means to buy on the open market could "at a stroke" empty some council houses for the needy, stimulate new house production, and reduce the numbers on the dole. Moreover, the burden of mortgage payments on the erstwhile tenants would mean that they could not afford to buy imported goods. It is doubtful if there is any other public investment which would produce such a good return.

Yours sincerely,
A. W. TAIT,
58 Portland Place, W1.
February 2.

Consular service

From Mr Eduard Fuller

Sir, Lady Marley (January 29) complains of an extra fee for consular services "out of hours". As an American journalist I recently had occasion to observe the problems faced by the British Consulate in Rome during regular hours. Each week during the tourist season hundreds of people expect help because of stolen handbags, documents, money, travel tickets, etc.

One couple arrived at the consulate in bathing costume — all they had left when their car with all their possessions inside was stolen. Another man arrived in his wife's stretch slacks — all he had available when luggage was stolen from his hotel room during the night. The consular staff arranged to buy trousers for him and the consul herself took them home on her lunch hour to sew up the cuffs. These problems are in addition to the normal duties of registering births, arranging visas, dealing with death certificates, etc.

Rarely have I seen such efficiency and courtesy with a sympathetic staff doing all they could. Presumably some consulates are better than others but from my observation I think all British subjects should be grateful to have these hard-working people there to help in time of need.

If Lady Marley objected to paying an additional £17 for services demanded when the consulate was closed, she could easily have waited and gone there on Monday morning. As she found the casual bystanders and the French police such revelations of kindness, surely she could have borrowed the Métro fare.

Yours faithfully,
EDUARD FULLER,
Springfield Farm,
Buckhorn-Weston,
Near Gillingham,
Dorset.
February 1.

Home brewed

From Miss Emma Wigglesworth

Sir, In your Business News of January 30 Mr Shindler, Secretary of the National Association of Licensed House Managers, is reported as saying that home brewing is unfair competition.

This extraordinary statement could well be applied to home cooking, home dressmaking, home decorating, home movies or even, perhaps, playing the piano at home.

Rather than suggesting a tax on those who are doing their best to cope with inflation the association should do the same as other industries and find new ways of attracting custom.

Yours faithfully,
EMMA WIGGLESWORTH,
53 Canonbury Park South, N1.
January 30.

Radio print

From Miss Margaret Smith

Sir, I wonder if there is any scientific basis for the curious assumption made by publishers of newspapers that those people who listen to radio programmes have better eyesight than those who watch television.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET SMITH,
2 Willowslea Road,
Bevere,
Worcester.

A town like Townsville

From Mr Noel F. Webster

Sir, "City of Townsville", the name of an Australian airliner observed at Heathrow by your correspondent G. H. Neild (February 3) is not, as he suggests, an example of tautological Oz-speak.

The Queensland port of Townsville was named after its founder, English-born merchant Robert Towns, in 1865, and was designated a city the following year.

Aussies 1, Poms 0.

Yours faithfully,
NOEL F. WEBSTER,
5 Cecil Close,
Mount Avenue,
Ealing, W5.
February,3.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 4: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, took the chair at the Export Conference which was held at the Midland Hotel, Manchester and in the afternoon visited the Ancoats Youth Centre.

His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight, was attended by Lieutenant Commander Richard Buckley, RN.

The Queen will attend the Commonwealth Day Observance Service at Westminster Abbey on March 8.

The Prince of Wales will be admitted to the Freedom and Livery of the Pewterers' Company at Pewterers' Hall, EC2, on March 10.

Princess Anne, Chancellor of London University, will attend a presentation ceremony at the Albert Hall, followed by a presentation service at Westminster Cathedral, on March 10.

The Duke of Kent, patron of the Leukaemia Research Fund, will attend a charity greyhound race meeting at White City Stadium on March 30.

The Duchess of Kent, patron of the Yorkshire County Cricket Club, will attend a members' dinner at the Queen's Hotel, Leeds, on March 31.

Princess Alexandra will take The Lord High Admiral's Divisions at the Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, on April 7.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P. A. L. Simson and Ms H. E. Mallinson
The engagement is announced between Peregrine Anthony Litton, second son of Brigadier and Mrs E. C. L. Simson, of Chilbolton, Hampshire, and Hilary Ella, younger daughter of Sir Paul Mallinson, Bt, FRCP, of Bembridge, Isle of Wight and Ella Lady Mallinson, of The Gateways, London, SW3.

Mr J. D. Carrington and Miss J. M. Caplin
The engagement is announced between John, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. J. Carrington, of London, N14, and Judy, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs M. Caplin, of London, NW11.

Mr R. O. B. Cooper and Miss M. J. Holland
The engagement is announced between Oliver, eldest son of Mr and Mrs R. B. Cooper, of Bricett Hall, Great Bricett, Ipswich, Suffolk, and Miranda Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs C. B. B. Holland of The Windmill Inn, Pitch Hill, Ewhurst, Nr Cranleigh, Surrey.

Mr A. H. Hope and Miss R. J. Johnstone
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Hugh Hope, of Fosters, Mattingley, Basingstoke, Hampshire, and Rosanna, daughter of Major Ian Johnstone, of Brixton Deverill, Warminster, Wiltshire, and of Mrs Susan Day.

Dr K. R. Mayne and Miss D. M. Staunton
The engagement is announced between Keith, son of Mr and Mrs K. J. Mayne, of Wimbledon, London, and Donna, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. F. Staunton, of Christchurch, New Zealand.

Mr G. M. Mercer and Miss J. M. Rochfort
The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, son of Commander and Mrs R. H. Mercer, of South Milton, South Devon, and Jill, daughter of Mr and Mrs O. P. J. Rochfort, of Broad Marston, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire.

Mr J. Parkin and Miss A. L. C. Adams
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs P. D. Parkin, of Birkenshaw, Bradford, Yorkshire, and Lesley, daughter of Mr A. D. D. Adams, of Surbiton, Surrey, and Mrs E. R. Adams, of Maidenhead, Berkshire.

Mr D J Selig and Miss A J Brady
The engagement is announced between David Julian, second son of Mr and Mrs Martin Selig, of Melbourne, Australia, and Alison Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Hugh Brady, of 16 Selwood Terrace, London, SW7.

Mr C E Spencer and Miss N K Katrak
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs G E Spencer, of Surbiton, Surrey, and Nicola, elder daughter of the late Mr H S Katrak and Mrs M Katrak, of Beech, Hampshire.

Marriages

Dr D. Ebrahim and Mrs I. Brinley-Richards
The marriage took place quietly on January 23 at Hillmorton Parish Church, near Rugby, between Dr Donald Ebrahim and Mrs Ivy Brinley-Richards.

Group Captain G. H. Pirie and Mrs J. Hugill
The marriage took place yesterday in St Faith's Chapel, Westminster Abbey, between Group Captain Gordon Pirie and Mrs John Hugill. The Dean of Westminster officiated, assisted by the Rev Alan Luff. A reception was held in the Jerusalem Chamber.

Luncheon

Association of British Herb Growers and Producers
The Association of British Herb Growers and Producers held a luncheon at the House of Commons yesterday, by courtesy of Mr John J. Wells MP, in honour of Lord Ferrers, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Reception

Lord Mayor of Westminster
The Lord Lieutenant of Greater London, Baroness Phillips, was present at a reception given at City Hall last night by the Lord Mayor of Westminster for the Westminster winners of the Queen's Awards for Export and Technology in 1980 and 1981. The other guests included: The Hon Peter Brooke, MP, Mr John Wheeler, MP, Mr Derek Allen, Mr Geoffrey Edwards and Mr Keith Grant.

Service dinner

HMS Royal Arthur
Mr John Garnett, director of the Industrial Society, was the guest of honour at a guest night dinner held in HMS Royal Arthur, the Royal Navy's Petty Officers' Leadership School, at Corsham, Wiltshire last night. Commander C. R. Green executive officer of the establishment, presided.

Dinners

Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785
A dinner was held at the Army and Navy Club last night to celebrate founders' day and to entertain members of the Admiralty Board. Admiral Sir David Williams presided and the other speakers were Mr Peter Blaker, MP, and Admiral Sir Desmond Cassidi.

Manorial Society of Great Britain
Mr Robert Smith, Chairman of the Manorial Society of Great Britain, welcomed members and guests at a dinner held at the Carlton Club, London last night. Lord Montagu of Beaulieu was the guest speaker. Among those present were:

Lord Sudeley, Mr C H Bird, Miss C Cartwright, Mr H A S Cartwright, Mr and Mrs T R Clark, Miss A C Donovan, Mr M Farrow, Mr N J Fisher, Dr D McCarthy, Mr S Roney, Dr G D Teall and Mr M Wynne-Parker.

Association of Lancastrians in London
The Association of Lancastrians in London held a City dinner last night at the Porter Tun Room. Mr Peter Armitage was in the chair and Mr John Minshull-Fogg and Mr W. M. Fernie also spoke. Among those present were:

Sir John and Lady Tuney, Sir Desmond and Lady Heap, Colonel Sir Eric and Lady St Johnston, Sir Robert and Lady Somerville, Mr and Mrs Herbert Butler, Judge Pigot, QC, and Mrs Pigot and Mrs Minshull-Fogg

Alexandra Rose Ball

The Alexandra Rose Ball will be held on Thursday, May 20, at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, W1, from 8.30 pm to 2.00 am. Tickets are available at £25.00 each, including dinner and a lucky numbered ball programme, from Mrs B Weston, 1 Castlenau, Barnes, SW13 9RP. The chairman of the commmittee is Lady Bellinger and the junior committee is jointly organized by Miss Sarah Frampton and Miss Clare Bardsley.

Army undergraduate awards

The Army Undergraduate Awards Board has awarded bursaries to the following from the Lent Term 1982:

J J Brade, St Catherine's Coll, Oxford, M E D Broderman, City of London Poly, G T Butler, St John's Coll, Cambridge, N D Embleton, East Anglia Univ, A G Gee, Sheffield City Poly; C E M Guinness, Exeter Univ, J H R King, Edinburgh Univ, M Middlemiss, Christ's Coll, Cambridge, T J Parkman, St Anne's Coll Oxford, E T Watson, Lincoln Coll, Oxford, J M G Willatt, St Catharine's Coll, Cambridge, D A Wombwell, Aston Univ

Move on church repair charges

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Church of England's right to charge certain landowners for the cost of repairs to the local parish church should be phased out over the next 20 years, according to an official recommendation which will be debated by the General Synod later this month.

The standing committee of the Synod wants the church to respond positively to a Law Commission proposal favouring the eventual abolition of what is called "chancel repair liability". That ancient custom, enforceable in law, gives parochial church councils the right in some cases to send the bill for structural repairs to owners of land who have inherited that liability in their title deeds.

Two years ago a case arose of a farmer who found himself liable for about £20,000 of repairs. He claimed that he knew nothing of the liability at the time he bought the land.

Many landowners have accepted the liability, which is a factor taken into account in assessing the value of the freehold. Some of them, such as Oxford and Cambridge colleges, perform their duties with alacrity. But for historical reasons it is quite possible for an owner of land, even a mere householder, to have a legal liability of which he knows nothing.

The original responsibility of the landowner, who may also have been the patron of the living of that parish, may have been divided in many directions if the land was sold in parcels. Each subsequent owner of such a parcel becomes liable for the whole repair bill, if the local parish church decides to pursue it.

The synod will be advised to seek the abolition of this right only gradually, as to end it suddenly might seem to be a form of confiscation of an asset which belongs to local churches. Parliament, which would be required to pass an Act in the light of recommendations from the Law Commission, might object to proposals which appeared to be confiscatory.

The standing committee is known to fear that undue emphasis in this reform might draw attention to a right which has in many cases been allowed to lapse, usually through ignorance, and that public debate might stimulate local church councils to make claims

☐ A £500,000 appeal fund has been launched to save a Norman round church in Northampton (a correspondent writes). It is one of only four surviving Norman round churches in Britain and church authorities say that unless the money is raised it will be in ruins within 25 years.



The Duke of Kent with members of the Ancoats youth centre yesterday

Duke sees how police help the young

From John Chartres, Manchester

The Duke of Kent saw another side of the much criticized Greater Manchester police yesterday when he visited the Ancoats youth centre, which is run by the force as part of its community relations programme.

He met some of the 1,200 members, most of whom live in the poorer areas on the north side of the city and who are provided with facilities for sports ranging from boxing to aub-aqua diving.

Founded as the Ancoats Lads' Club in 1889 by a local businessman, the centre had become so badly vandalized by 1980 that it was closed. Mr James Anderton, the chief constable of Greater Manchester, invited his community relations officers to see if they could help.

With finance from the Inner City Partnership Fund, the building was reopened last June and boasts some of the best equipment in any youth centre of its kind. An inspector and six constables, three of them women, staff the centre permanently and many other officers give their services voluntarily as instructors.

Senior officers said yesterday that they regarded work at the centre to be an important part of the training of cadets and young constables on community relations work, the standard of which in the Greater Manchester force has been both praised and criticized since the Moss Side riots last summer.

The police hope that a similar centre might be established in the Moss Side area.

Works by Breughel and Goya fail to find buyers

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Old Master prints were fetching rather unpredictable prices at Sotheby's yesterday. The potentially most expensive lots failed to sell. The only complete etching by Pieter Breughel the Elder, "Landscape with the Rabbit Hunters", was bought in at £20,000 (estimate £20,000 to £25,000), and a good, but not outstanding set of Goya's "Los Caprichos" was bought in at £18,000 (estimate £25,000 to £30,000).

In contrast, some rather off-beat rarities were picked out for intense competition. Four rare drypoints of trophies by an anonymous sixteenth century printmaker known as the "Master of the Year 1515", printed on a single sheet of paper, sold for £6,380 (estimate £1,500 to £3,000).

Other examples were the £3,300 (estimate £700 to £1,000) for a fine impression of a tiny Adriaen van Ostade etching of a "Peasant with his hand in his cloak" and the £3,190 (estimate £1,600 to £2,200) for "Two men on the road", a landscape etching by Jan van Brosterhuisen, a rare and little known contemporary of Rembrandt's. The top price in the sale was £14,300 (estimate £11,000 to £14,000) for a setr of "The Small Passion by Dürer.

At Christie's sale of carpets and textiles condition was the factor of overriding importance to bidders. A fine antique silk Tabriz carpet was sold for £37,800 (unpublished estimate £32,000 to £38,000), but the other potential moneyspinner, an antique silk Kashan carpetwas bought in at £36,000. That was main contributor to the 50 per cent unsold total. Christie's said later that they were negotiating a private sale.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Lord Trend to be president of the Royal Commonwealth Society in succession to Mr Malcolm MacDonald, who died last year.

Mr Nicholas Lloyd, deputy editor of the *Sunday Mirror*, to be editor of the *Sunday People* in succession to Mr Geoffrey Pinnington, who is retiring on April 3.

Sir Douglas Black, to chair a working party on bone marrow transplantation. Other members to be Dr G. M. Komrower, Dr N. D. Compston, Professor J. S. Malpas, Dr I. W. Delamore, Professor A. Jacobs, Professor D. A. G. Galton, Professor E. J. Holborow, Dr C. C. Entwistle, Professor G. C. Jenkins, Dr A. Barrett, Dr R. W. E. Watts, Dr A. McGregor, and Miss D. E. Millward.

Mr Norman Hardyman Under-Secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security and a former Under-Secretary at the Department of Education and Science, is to be Secretary of the University Grants Committee from March 15.

Colonel Sir John Gilmour, to be Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

University news

Birmingham
Professor Edward Marsland has been appointed Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the university for five years

In March last year Professor Marsland was appointed Vice-Chancellor for one year from October 1, 1981, pending the naming of a permanent successor to Lord Hunter. At its meeting on January 20, the university council approved a recommendation that be appointed until 1986.

The council ruled that future appointments to the office of vice-chancellor and principal should be for a fixed term.

Memorial services

Lord Pargiter
The Speaker was represented by Mr Ernest Armstrong, MP, at a memorial service for Lord Pargiter held at St Margaret's, Westminster, yesterday. Canon Trevor Beeson officiated. Sir James Swaffield, DirectorGeneral and Clerk to the Greater London Council, and Dr the Hon Russell Pargiter (son) read the lessons. Mr Carleton Hetherington gave an address. Others present included:

Lady Pargiter (widow), the Hon Mrs Ernest Cooper-Heyman (daughter), Miss R Cash; the Earl of Listowel, Lord Peart (Leader of the Opposition, House of Lords), Lord Strabolgi, Lord Wakefield of Kendal, Lord Mishcon, Lord and Lady Marshall of Leeds, Lord Stewart of Fulham, CH, Lord Vaizey, Lord Stone, Lord Leatherland (also representing the Opposition Chief Whip, House of Lords), Lord Fletcher, Lord Segal, Lord Beswick, Mr Stanley Orme, MP (chairman, Parliamentary Group AUEW), the Hon Ewen Montagu, QC (Middlesex County Association), Lady Swaffield, Sir Meredith Whittaker, Sir Graham and Lady Rowlandson, Mr Ron Hayward (general secretary, Labour Party), Mrs Joyce Butler, Mr Tam Dalyell, MP, Mr George Park, MP, Mr Charles Arnold-Baker, Mr Harry Greenway, MP, Mr J Dean, MP, the Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of Ealing, the Acting Chief Executive of Ealing, Mr John Beeston (Southall Chamber of Commerce) and Mrs Beeston, Mr J R Horrell (Association of County Councils), Mr W H Milnes (secretary, United Nations Association), Mr John Morgan and Mr Paul Boggers (International Union of Local Authorities), Mr Geoffrey Smith (Local Government Chronicle) and Mr Jim Cattermole (European Movement)

Professor T. H. Marshall
A meeting in memory of Professor T. H. Marshall was held at the London School of Economics and Political Science yesterday. Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, Director, introduced the meeting and Professor R. A. Pinker read from Eliot's *Little Gidding*. Tributes were paid by Dr H. Hillman, Mrs Jean Floud, Professor J. E. Meade and Professor D. G. MacRae. Mrs Michal Hambourg (sister-in-law) played the last movement of Schumann's Fantasia. Among others present were:

Mrs T H Marshall (widow); Lord and Lady Kaldor, Baroness Seear, Lady Cynthia Postan, Sir Roy and Lady Allen, Sir Anthony Burney, Sir Henry and Lady Phelps Brown, Professor and Mrs Raymond Firth, Dr A. Bohm, Dr Audrey Richards, Professor Ruth Glass, Professor L. C. B. Gower, Dr and Mrs John Bowlby, Mr and Mrs Charles Knowles, Professor J. Martin and Professor J. H Smith (Southampton University), Mr A. M Rees, Professor J. Barnes (Churchill College, Cambridge) and Professor and Mrs H. L. Elvin

Mr C. Gibbs-Smith
A memorial service for Mr Charles Gibbs-Smith was held yesterday at St Augustine's, Queen's Gate. The Rev Kenneth Hewitt officiated. Dame Margaret Weston, Director of the Science Museum, read the lesson and Sir Roy Strong, Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, gave an address. Among others present were:

Mrs Gibbs-Smith (widow), Miss Mary Harvard (sister), Mr and Mrs Michael Harvard (brother and sister-in-law); Mrs O H Gibbs-Smith, Mr Jonathan Gibbs-Smith, Canon and Mrs Christopher Lawrence, Mr John Taylor, Miss Lilian Gill.

The Hon Donald and Mrs Kershaw, the Hon Philip Samuel, Sir Trenchard Cox, Sir David Follett, Air Marshal Sir Frederick Sowrey, Mr Terence Hodgkinson, Mr John Lowe, Mr John Harthan, Mr George Wingfield Digby, Mr R J Charleston, Mr V K Chew, Mr Brian Lacey, Prof Clive Hart, Mr Claude Blair, Mr Ronald Lightbown, Mr John Physick, Mrs Shirley Bury, Mr John Burton, Mr John Bagley, Mr John Beckwith, Mr John Mallett, Mr Donald King, Miss S Levey, Mr George Nash, Mr Basil Robinson, Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Hallowes, Miss Constance Babington Smith, Group Captain John Cunningham, Mr Theodore Crombie, Dr Mary Hellier, Miss Joan Nichol, Dr Michael Linnell, Dr and Mrs Louis Rose, Mr Arnold Nayler and other representatives of the Royal Aeronautical Society, Mr David Musprall (Working Men's College), Major W J Goldsmith (Mosquito Aircraft Museum) and representatives of the College of Psychic Studies, the Flying Saucer Review and other organizations.

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

Our recent list of worst-selling books for the rare book trade was so successful that we are making another innovation today. This is a new service for those who like classical records, but find the stuff on the best-selling classical list rather heavy going. For them, and for all those who have decided that concert music is not nearly as bad at they once thought, we present:

Classical Records: The Monster-Selling List

1. *Placido Domingo Sings Julio Iglesias.* "O Mein Papa", "My Heart Belongs to Daddy" and 18 other massive hits, with the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra. (OTT 459100, £5.99, also cassette.)
2. *James Galway and His Golden Flute: Themes for the Great Silent Movies.* (Mogadon PVC 495100, also on cassette, £5.99.)
3. *Placido Domingo: "It's Easy to Tango!"* Step-by-step instructions by the king of Latin music, together with life-size foot charts, free bow-tie and souvenir booklet of Buenos Aires. (Supertax 419500, £5.99, also in paperback.)
4. *James Galway and his Platinum Flute: Saturday Night in Old Belfast!* The knees-up record to end all knees-up records, with the lads of Murphy's Bar and the Massed Bands of the SAS. (Harp 409510, £5.99, also in bottle and can.)
5. *Sing Along with Placido Domingo!* The darling of the late-night chic opera party crowd in concert with the Royal Covent Garden Opera House audience, taking nineteen encores, cheeky devil. (Valium 001945, £5.99, also in flip-top dispenser.)
6. *James Galway and his Diamond Flute: The James Joyce Centenary Album,* with Joyce's verses read by Pam Ayres. (Harp 954100, £5.99, with many photos of Frank Delaney.)
7. *The John Williams No-Gimmick LP, Just One Guitar and No Messing About.* Honest. Well, with Guest Stars Cleo Laine, John Dankworth and Andre Previn. But otherwise no gimmicks. Backing by The Who. (Glitter 001954, £5.99, also autographed, £50.)
8. *Andre Previn and Friends, Vol 8.* Features actual live recording of Andre Previn being congratulated by his friends on success of Vols 1-7. (Ferguson 901450, £5.99, also on video.)
9. *The All-Electric HMS Pinafore.* New York cast recording of new Gilbert and Sullivan smash hit, featuring Placid Domingo and Sting, and introducing the tap-dancing of Rudolf Nureyev. (Lloyd Webber 900145, £5.99, also in mono.)
10. *James Galway and his Nuclear-Powered Flute: Tunes from the Great Commercial Jingles.* (Hovis 910054, £5.99, also in giant, economy and budget pack.)
11. *Placido Domingo sings Lullabies.* Yes, go to sleep with the Barry Manilow opera! (Barbiturate 590104, £5.99, in vanilla, orange or cinnamon.)
12. *The James Galway-Placido Domingo a gogo Party Album!* Dance the night away with Plac and Jim, also Stephane and Yehudi, John and Cleo, Julian and John, Andre and friends! (Parky 900154, with free sick-bag.)

D-Day Victoria Cross for sale

The only Victoria Cross won on D-Day will be auctioned by Sotheby's next month. It belonged to Company Sergeant Major Stanley Hollis, of the Green Howards, who died in 1972 and it is being offered for sale anonymously.

The auction will be the first public sale of a second World War VC, and the medal could fetch £22,000

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):

Branson, Colonel Sir Douglas Stephenson, of Sheffield, solicitor £227,860

Norton, Mr Alfred, of Welborne, East Dereham, Norfolk .. £570,782

Potter, Professor, George Richard, of Hathersage, Derbyshire £221,048

Williams, Mr Graham Wyatt, of Kensington, London, solicitor £317,946

£1m boost for films in region

By Kenneth Gosling

Against a backdrop of the rapid decline in film exhibition throughout Britain, the British Film Institute yesterday announced its biggest ever funding to the regions.

For the first time in its history its cash grant to regional organizations tops £1m; in particular, the grants to regional arts associations are up by nearly 21 per cent to £613,000, enabling them to maintain their programmes of work in film production, exhibition and education.

The institute's grant from the Government for 1982-83 is up by about £600,000 to more than £7m. The regional increases have been met partly by cutting back on the institute's own in-house activities.

It is in line, however, with its policy of rethinking and regenerating its system of support for film exhibition.

The particular beneficiaries will be the Bristol Watershed, the Bradford Film Theatre and the *Derby Metro, with increases of* 150, 95, and 40 per cent respectively.

The institute has also recognized the importance of the Edinburgh International Film Festival with an increase in grant of 35 per cent. The only other area outside the regions to get an increase is the preservation work of the National Film Archive. The Government has made a special capital grant of £100,000 towards the cost of supplementing the archive's now heavily overflowing acetate film storage vaults.

But in spite of a further £100,000 to transfer deteriorating nitrate film to safety stock, the total preserving budget of £675,000 is calculated to be less than half that needed to save the national film heritage.

Birthdays today





Mr Frank Muir, the writer and broadcaster, who is 62.

Lieutenant-General Sir Clarence Bird, 97; Mr Peter Fleetwood-Hesketh, 77; Mr Ian Findlay, 64; Lord Gibson, 66; Professor Sir Alan Hodgkin, OM, 68; Sir Antony Hornby, 78; Miss Susan Hill, 40; Wing Commander R. A. B. Learoyd, VC, 69; Prebendary Dewi Morgan, 66; Professor A. M. Neville, 59; Mr John Pritchard, 61; the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, 78; Sir Bruce White, 97.

25 years ago

From The Times of Monday February 4 1957

Nicosia, Feb 3.—A government statement today says that reliable information has been received from many sources that during this week the terrorists plan to devote all their remaining resources to creating as much termoil and disorder in Cyprus as possible.

Sandhurst entry

The following joined the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in January.

Standard Military Course No 29: S G Akroyd, Eton C; C D Allcock, Shrewsbury S; N A Armstrong, Welbeck C; M Ashley Miller, Charterhouse S; G A Baillie; C A K Barrow, Truro S; S P Baxter, Aldenham S; S J Beaumont, Epsom C; L J A Bell, Stowe S; S J Bennet, Welbeck C; J C R Bertram, Knox Acad, E Lothian; D Bird, Whitby Comp, N Yorks; A R Bolitho, Eton C; A P Bristow, Portsmouth GS; T J Brocklebank-Fowler, Westminster S; R D I Brown, Hamnoch S, Perthshire; R R E Butler, St John's S, Surrey; A H Campbell-Black, Welbeck C; L B Campbell-Black, Welbeck C; D A Caulfield, Dyrma, Kent; F J Chedham, Greville HS, Warks; P R Chillion, St Mary's C, Hants; C M Clark, Welbeck C; H Cree; R J Cripwell, Welbeck C; D A Cromar, Newcastle R GS; K T Cronin, Yeovil High S; G N Cruckhart, Perth Acad; C P G Davis, Christ C, Brecon; C W Day, Welbeck C; K A Dublin, Austin Friars S, Cumbria; N M Dwyer, Welbeck C; A E C Edmonstone, Stowe S; D M Eke, Richard Challoner Comp, Merton; T P Evans, Monkton Combe S.

C S Fattorini, Ampleforth C; O F O Findlay, Harrow S; M J P Flannery, St Joseph's C, London; A W Fortescue, Eton C; R W Garlick, Rawlins Comp, Leics; J P W Gatehouse, Dover C; A Gayler, Reans S, Bucks; D A H Gibbons, Welbeck C; T R S Gibson, Merchant Taylors S, Middx; D J Gregory, The Paston S, Norfolk; J A Croggan, Welbeck C; C E E Hamilton, Solihull S, W Mids; M G Hickson, St Edwards S, Oxon; M E Hakedy, Berkhamsted S, Herts; J Hurlock, Oswestry S, Shropshire; H R M Ingram, Cheltenham C; J D G Isaac, Christ C, Powys; I S Johnston, St Michael's C of E HS, Lancs; A M Jones, King Edward VI S, Staffs; R C Jones, Canford S, Dorset; R Keeley, Dyrma, Kent; T P Kelly, Downside S, Bath; T L Kingsberry, West Buckland S, Devon; C M Knights Exmouth S; C M R Lewis, Old Swinford Hospital, W Mids; T D Light, Kingswood S, Bath; C C Lillington-Price, Sherborne S; I J Lindsay, Eton C; D J Lawton, Trentham HS, Staffs; M R Lugg, Welbeck C.

A P Macdonald, Edinburgh Acad; I C A Mackichan, Marlborough C; F E C Macpherson, Eton C; J D Main-Thompson, Douai S, Berks; R A Mason, Caterham S, Surrey; A McArthur, Welbeck C; D S McCreadie, Inverness HS; G M D McCullough, The Oratory S; J A McDonnell, Welbeck C; J R McIntosh, Sandown HS, Isle of Wight; G G Medlicott-Goodwin, Stonyhurst C; A N Melvin, The George

OBITUARY

PROFESSOR F. T. C. CARTER

Modern methods of teaching foreign languages

Professor F.T.C. Carter, Professor of modern languages in the Department of European Studies, Loughborough University of Technology, died of a heart attack on January 30. He was 45.

Frank Carter was a Midlander, educated at King Edward School, Edgbaston, Birmingham University and University College, Bangor. He joined the University of Loughborough as a lecturer in 1967, was promoted to a senior lectureship in 1974 and became Professor of German in 1976.

Previously, he had taught at Manor Park Grammar School, Nuneaton from 1958-63, and at Highbury Technical College, Portsmouth from 1963-67.

Deeply concerned with advanced language teaching and techniques he was a major exponent of the use of audio-visual material and a pioneer in the teaching of modern European studies in Britain. He took a leading part in national discussions on the subject. Carter was the author of an important German course for undergraduates and, in collaboration, had worked on specialist dictionaries, translations, and the use of European television for advanced language studies.

Frank Carter was a man of pleasant disposition, outgoing and with a wide circle of friends. He held the respect and confidence of all he worked with, staff and students alike.

He leaves a widow and two children, to whom the university extends its deepest sympathy.

MR SIGMUND POLLITZER

A correspondent writes:

Sigmund Pollitzer, who died on January 29 at the age of 68, was a remarkable artist and a remarkable character. He first made a name for himself in the 1930s as a designer of art-deco glass panels, and was one of the artists who contributed to the decor of the Queen Mary.

After an unhappy period in the army at the beginning of the war, he settled for a while in a country cottage at Hurtmore near Godalming, where he produced a dazzling series of pen and ink drawings — landscapes, portraits and many characteristically vivid studies of sunflowers and tree-trunks.

But, as soon as he could, he went to live in the Mediterranean; first in Cyprus and subsequently in Italy, developing various techniques for capturing on paper his intense vision of his surroundings. For 20 years he was a regular visitor to Rome and Venice, where he painted and drew again and again, in loving detail, the architecture and sculpture that he knew and understood so well.

His work in the 1930s is represented in the Victoria and Albert Museum and at least two of his works were shown in the recent Thirties Exhibition. He exhibited in London at the Hanover and Redfern galleries in the 1950s. His later work was exhibited mainly in Rome and America.

SIR DOUGLAS GLOVER

J. D. R. T. T. writes:

As a former colleague may I add a comment on your obituary of Sir Douglas Glover. Wise, gentle, kind, with a great gift of friendship, he had a splendid sense of humour. He loved to talk and showed great courage when he knew he had cancer.

He talked much about the Army and politics. He had served his country well in both. He had been mentioned in despatches and had loved his years in the TA. At the end of the war he had put on a great parade in Holland for the then Queen Juliana in aid of the Dutch Red Cross and was made a Knight Officer of the Order of Orange-Nassau.

In politics at home he was the last active member of the House of Commons to be chairman of the Conservative Party Conference, rare even before 1961. But outside Great Britain he was chairman of the Anti-Slavery Society and was proud of having been a delegate to the 17th Assembly of the United Nations. He was also proud of being a governor of his old school, Giggleswick, to which he was very generous.

In his latter years he was probably happiest with his second wife, Eleanor, in her garden at Freudenberg, looking after his roses with his beloved labrador at his side. He much enjoyed being host to the Thatchers on holiday both when the Conservatives were in Opposition and in Government; also last year to Prince Philip during the European four-in-hand competition in Kanton Zug.

He remained a staunch believer in Conservative policies.

MR DONALD BOWIE

Mr Donald Bowie, Director of the Church of England Children's Society died on January 31 after a short illness. He was 60. He joined the society in 1964 as Deputy Director and succeeded Canon Reginald Beeny in 1975.

Bowie came to the society with wide experience in both the Colonial Service and in commerce. He joined the Colonial Service in 1947 after serving in the King's African Rifles during the war and retired as an Assistant Secretary in Dar es Salaam. On returning to Britain he worked in the City.

Bowie led and guided the society through a period of marked change of emphasis in its child care practice. Under his directorship the society developed community and neighbourhood projects aimed at preventing children being taken into care, as well as continuing to provide specialist care in residential homes and through adoption and fostering. He was instrumental in setting up a working party on religious commitment chaired by the Bishop of Willesden. The working party was an example of his concern with and interest in the spiritual dimension of the society's work for children and families.

He leaves a widow and three daughters.

HIS HON G. G. LIND-SMITH

His Hon Gerard Gustave Lind-Smith, who died on February 3 at the age of 79, was a Circuit Judge from 1959 to 1975.

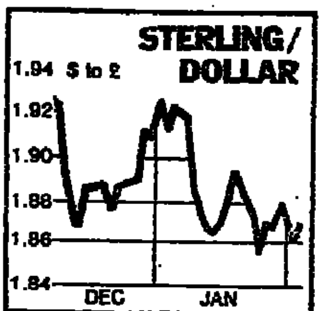
Educated at Wellington College and University College, Oxford, Lind-Smith was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 1928. He served from 1940 to 1945 as a temporary major with the Royal Army service Corps.

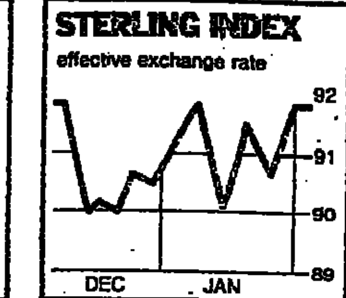
From 1958 to 1959 he was Recorder of Birkenhead and became a County Court Judge in 1959 on the Birmingham Circuit where he remained until 1966. From 1967 to 1975 he was on Circuit 23 (Coventry, Northampton & c). He had been deputy chairman of Cheshire Quarter Sessions in 1957 and was chairman from 1961 to 1968.

He married, in 1928, Alexandra Eva, a daughter of Lieut-Col J. C. Kirk, CBE. they had three daughters.

BUSINESS NEWS

Sterling one cent up





The pound rose aganst the dollar on the money markets but fell against some other major currencies. The effective rate slipped slightly, closing at 91.7, down 0.1. It was 100 points up against the American currency, at $1.8700. The pound has been strengthening for some days on the effective rate, climbing one percentage point during the last eight trading days.

Nissan UK talks

Senior executives of Nissan, the Japanese car maker, are expected in London next week for talks in Whitehall on the company's proposed United Kingdom car manufacturing plant. The delegation will be led by Mr Masataka Okuma, vice-president. Nissan is believed to have selected a site for the factory last year, probably in the north-east. The talks are expected to lead to a formal announcement of the chosen site.

PSBR on course

The public sector borrowing requirement in the nine months to December totalled £9,710m. But after allowing an estimated £3,000m for the impact of the civil servants' dispute, the underlying figure is about £6,750m, apparently on course for the Government's estimate of £10,600m for the full financial year. in the three months to December, the PSBR was only £212m, helped by the recovery of about £1,500m of delayed tax.

Business Editor, page 17

● Ghana is he world's most expensive country for a Briton, according to a survey by Employment Conditions Abroad. Inflation there means a British style of meal would cost more than ten times as much as in Britain.

Gatt inquiry

An 11-man team of international economists began work in London yesterday on an investigation into the impact of trade protectionism. The group, chaired by Sir Alec Cairncross, will report to a Gatt ministers' meeting next November.

● The board of Thomas W. Ward has now accepted Rio-Tinto Zinc's increased offer, which went unconditional on January 25.

● Grand Metropolitan has sold to Vaux Breweries of Sunderland, the International Hotel in West London for £7.7m.

● The Government and industry is to launch a joint campaign to promote the British viewdata system Prestel to consumers.

MARKET SUMMARY

Lucas leads a retreat

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 574.8 down 3.2
FT Gilts 64.95 up 0.16
FT All Share 328.72 down 1.40
Bargains 19,335

Move than 1,000 redundancies jobs at Lucas Industries' aerospace division produced a sharp burst of reverse thrust to the market's ambitions yesterday.

After a cautious start, equities, retreated amid nervous selling, something the jobbers had tried to achieve all week, as stock shortages became more acute. The FT Index closed 3.2 down at 574.8 after being 2.3 down at 10am.

Lucas shares tumbled 9p to 221p and were the cause of hefty losses on all other aerospace leaders. Smiths Industries fell 12p to 356p, Hawker Siddeley 10p to 340p, and British Aerospace 9p to 195p.

Gilts also showed signs of running out of steam, but, after initial falls recovered to close £¼ up in longs and £⅛ up in shorts in reduced trade.

Among blue chips P & O d'fd resisted the trend rose 1p to 138p on renewed Far Eastern support. Several market sources said the long-awaited bid could be weeks away instead of months.

Elsewhere in shipping, London & Overseas Freighters added a further 1¼p to 62p in expectation of a bid from Leane Investments, the Panamanian group acting on behalf of Mr Faisol Hashim, who owns 17.23 per cent of the equity.

Royal Dutch/Shell fell 62½p to £17.03¼p as a line of 200,000 shares, worth £3.5m, went through the market at £17.50p. This in turn depressed Shell, which slipped 6p to 372p.

Shares of Platignum, the pen manufacturer, were suspended 1p up at 8p after news of a possible bid approach. The company said it was studying proposals submitted by a third party. Last year it made losses of almost £500,000 and at last night's level was valued at just under £1.5m.

The buyers were out in force for S & W Berisford amid talk of a favourable broker's seminar. But a spokesman for Berisford's brokers, W Greenwell, said the institutions were buying ahead of the dividend. The shares, which go ex-div on February 15, rose 5p to 136p, after 139p.

Mills and Allen jumped 14p to 542p as Hambros Bank sold its stake of 1.2m shares to Hambros Investment Trust.

Shareholders in the brewery industry were offered little encouragement by a spate of annual meetings. Matthew Brown eased 4p to 174p after being told by the chairman that the bad weather had again bit sales.

At Greenall Whitley, figures were down in the first quarter and the chairman said it would be difficult to maintain profits at last year's level. The price slipped 1p to 124p.

Meanwhile, Arthur Guinness shareholders were told that beer sales in Ireland had fallen and that negotiations for the sale of Callard & Bowser had reached an advanced stage. The shares lost 1p to 74p.

Vaux Brewery also fell 5p to 127p after announcing it had just paid £7.7m for one of Grand Metropolitan's London hotels.

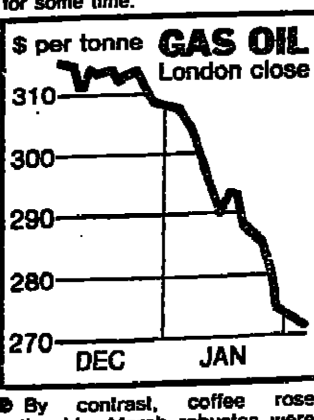
Better than expected profits news added 13p to Blundell Permoglaze at 107p, but first half losses left Smith Bros, one of the market's two quoted jobbers, 3p off at 37p.

Equity turnover on February 3 was £175.151m (17,107 bargains).

Michael Clark

COMMODITIES

● Gas oil prices mainly held on the International Petroleum Exchange in London yesterday, with May closing at £271.50-£272 a tonne. More distant contracts weakened were also steady suggesting that traders expect Saudi Arabian oil production to remain below 8.5m barrels a day for some time.



● By contrast, coffee rose noticeably. March robustas were up £76.50 a tonne to £1,286, and May was £37 higher at £1,208. Traders said nearby supplies are still tight.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,384.15 down 15.77. Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,834 down 26.24.

CURRENCIES

● The dollar weakened in late trading. The pound recovered from a day's low of $1.8615.

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.8700 up 100 points
Index 91.7 down 0.1
DM 4.3775
Fr.F 11.0900
Yen 435.50
DOLLAR
Index 111.4 unchanged
DM 2.3350 down 220 pts
GOLD
$384.50 up $6.25

MONEY MARKETS

● Markets held steady. The Bank bought £262m of bills on a forecast shortage of £300m. Its dealing rates were unchanged.

Domestic Rates:
Base rates 14%
3-month interbank 14⅝-14½
Euro-Currency Rates
3 month dollar 15-15 11/16
3 month DM 10¾-10⅝
3 month Fr.F 15¾-15½

TODAY

Housing starts and completions for December.
Company results: Burt Boulton, Dura Mill, English Associated Group, ML Holdings, (half-year); Portsmouth and Sunderland (9 months); Associated Fisheries, British American and General Trust, Glasgow Stockholders Trust (finals).

Storm over tripled US budget deficit

From Bailey Morris Washington, Feb 4

A new turore over the Reagan Administration's handling of budget figures eruted in the US House of Representatives today as Democratic and Republican leaders received more bad new about the projected deficit for the 1982 finacial year.

Based on current estimates of total Federal revenues expected in the 1982 fiscal year ending in September, House leaders were told they must write a new 1982 budget resolution showing a deficit almost triple the earlier projection.

The 1982 deficit is now expected to climb to $109,500m, up sharply from the earlier projection of dollars $37,700m largely because of increased defence expenditures and higher than expected costs for social programmes.

Members of the House budget committee received unpublished figures showing greatly increased Federal outlays of $741,000m in 1982 and lower than expected revenues for the year of $631,200m.

This would result in a deficit of more than $1,000m, Mrs Alice Rivlin, director of the Congressional budget office said. She disclosed the figure in testimony before the house armed services committee.

The United States stock market reacted to the news almost immediately dropping three points by midday after showing small gains most of the morning.

Mr James Jones, the Democratic chaiman of the committee said the new deficit forecast indicated the Administration's basic economic assumptions have been wrong all along. He said they raise doubts about the numbers to be includeed in the new 1983 budget message to congress.

Based on current administration policies and without further steep budget cuts, the deficit is expected to climb from $109,000m this fiscal year, to $157,000m in fiscal 1983 and up to $250,000m by fiscal 1986, Congressional budget figures indicated.

Mrs Rivlin blamed the new estimates on the Reagan adminstration's military buildup.

Mrs Rivlin blamed the new estimates on the Reagan Administration's military buildup which she said would not rekindle inflation but could retard economic growth greatly by producing huge deficits and high interest rates.

Mr Jones said his committee had received new figures from the administration showing higher costs for unemployment and greatly reduced tax revenues resulting from lower incomes in the United States during the first six months of fiscal 1982.

Incomes were down by $30,000m during the period and oil prices dropped by about $8,000m. This cut Federal revenues from the $657,000m assumed in the earlier budget resolution to $631,000m.

At the same time, Mr Jones said projected federal outlays, had risen sharply because of $8,000m in new unemployment costs and $7,400m in higher federal interest costs to finance the debt.

Total outlays in fiscal 1982 are now expected to reach $740,700m compared with $695,500m projected in the earlier budget resolution.

Heavy losses lead to German steel merger

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Feb 4

West Germany's second and third largest steel companies today announced plans to merge their steel making capacity to be known as Ruhrstahl AG.

The plans were approved at meetings of the supervisory boards of Krupp Stahl in Bochum and Estel Hoesch Werke in Dortmund.

A joint statement said the steelmaking operations would be pooled by the end of this year with other divisions following as soon as possible.

Krupp Stahl and Hoesch have incurred heavy losses as a result of the European steel crisis. The decision to pool their resources follows more than a year of discussions and will be followed by a request for state aid to help finance rationalization measures.

The two companies each produced around five million tonnes of crude steel last year, accounting for about one quarter of total West German output. Their combined turnover was around DM12,000 (*2.750m).

Krupp Stahl is the steelmaking arm of the Krupp engineering and heavy plant manufacturing group while Estel Hoesch Werke is the West German part of Dutch-West German Estel.

The two firms will have equal shares in the new Ruhrstahl company. Both have been struggling to modernize since the steel crisis in 1974. Hoesch has been handicapped by its outmoded Siemens Martin steelmaking plant in Dortmund but has modern capacities to produce sheet and plated steels. Krupp has invested heavily in building up its special steel capacity.

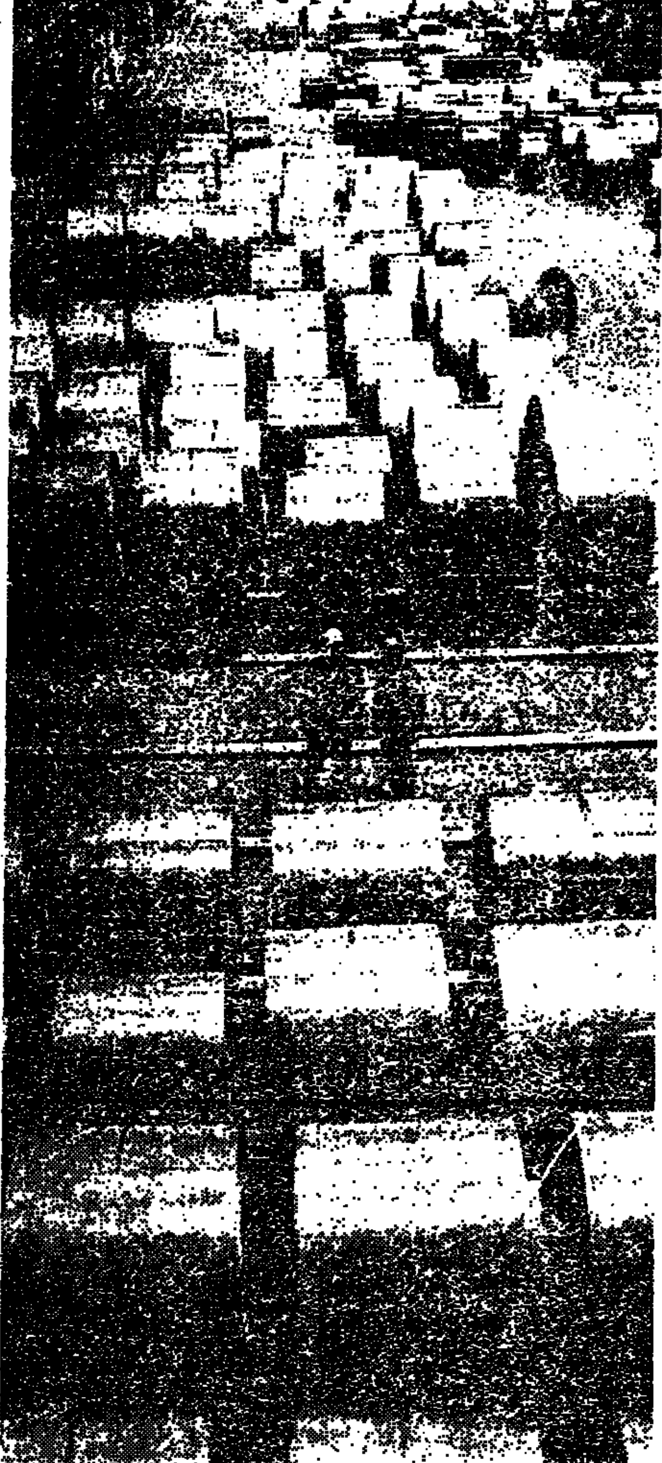
The companies said they would be able to cut costs through the better use of existing plant, through eliminating overlapping production divisions and avoiding duplicate investments.

They announced a series of new investment projects including the concentration of steel-making in Dortmund in a new oxygen plant with an annual production capacity of 3,500,000 tonnes.

Meanwhile, Thyssen, the largest West German steel and engineering group, is now breaking even on its steelmaking operations and hopes to be in profit from the second quarter of this year.

The company has so much confidence in the future that it is planning a rights issue.

Dr Dieter Spethmann, Thyssen's chief executive, said in Dusseldorf yesterday that shares would probably be offered in a ratio of one to five when stock market conditions allowed.



Hoesch's cold rolling mill at Dortmund: modern mills but outmoded steelmaking plant.

Chrysler tanks sale

The board of Chrysler, the troubled United States car company, met yesterday to consider a $350m (£187.5m) offer for its tank division from General Dynamics, one of the leading American manufacturers of military hardware. Talks have also been going on between the two companies and the Pentagon. The Chrysler subsidiary, which builds the M1 battle tank, makes annual profits of around $60m. Mr Lee Iacocca, the Chrysler chief, is said to have agreed reluctantly to the sale rather than risk the bad publicity of any further request for government aid.

Emergency powers for Belgian economy

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Feb 4

Belgium's centre-right coalition government of Mr Wilfied Martens has put forward its first "train" of measures to revive the country's economy. Others will follow soon under the special powers that parliament granted the government this week to push through its economic programme.

In tackling Belgium's economic problems of high unemployment, a huge budget deficit and a growing gap in the current account balance of payments, Mr Martens's coalition of right-wing liberal and centrist Christian parties has chosen to mix wage restraint and government austerity with pro-business measures to get investment moving.

The week's first package of measures under the special powers were anything but painful. To aid the building industry the government has decided to cut value adde tax on construction to 6 per cent from 17 per cent for two years, and suppress capital gains tax on unused building land.

It is awarding tax concessions to the self-employed and owners of small businesses and reducing VAT on gold to just 1 per cent from 6 per cent.

The paindul parts of the programme will start to come in the next weeks. The government is determined to weaken the Belgian system of index linking wages and other payments to inflation, in an attempt to make the country more competitive. Consultation with both sides of industry is planned but the objective is already clear.

The government is determined to keep the overall growth of wages and salaries this year down to 3 per cent.

Organized labour is already mobilizing against plans to revise the index with the FGTB, the socialist trade union federation, and the French-speaking wing of the Christian trade union movement in the depressed south of the country having called a general strike for Monday.

A gargantuan task that still has to be tackled is devising the economies to make the 1982 budget deficit conform with the Government's target of Belfr200,000m (£2,400m). At the time of its formation in December, the Government said it would have to effect new economies of about BF120,000m to achieve this goal and promised a rigorous campaign against public waste and tax fraud.

Oil taxation policies readily criticized

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Several North Sea oil fields now offer less than commercial rates of return as a result of the harsher tax regime introduced by the Government last year, two oil experts claim today in a swingeing attack on the Chancellor's oil taxation policies.

Mr. Alexander Kemp, Reader in Economics at Aberdeen University, and Mr David Rose, his research assistant, say that the introduction of special petroleum duty in the last Budget has pushed the real rate of return on Shell / Esso's South Cormorant discovery and the Heather field operated by Union Oil, two proven fields, below 10 per cent.

A number of other fields, including Beatrice and Magnus, give real returns of less than 15 per cent, the minimum that oil companies are normally prepared to accept for such high-risk capital-intensive projects.

In an 82-page submission to the Chancellor, the two academics say that the North Sea fiscal system is "badly in need of reform". They call for the existing complicated four-tier tax regime, consisting of royalty, special petroleum duty, petroleum revenue tax and corporation tax, to be scrapped and replaced by a single "progressive profits tax".

□ Occidental Petroleum has decided to press ahead with the appraisal of a field it discovered in 1975. The field, a few miles to the south west of Occidental's Claymore field, is to be called Scapa.

Tin market on verge of crisis

By Michael Prest

London's tin market was on the verge of crisis last night despite recent attempts by the London Metal Exchange authorities to restore calm. The price of cash tin rose another £110 to £8,945 a tonne, while the three months price fell £32 to £8,045.

Dealers said that the major buyer who has dominated the market since last summer did not sell any tin yesterday. This forced up the price of cash tin and widened still further the backwardation — cash prices are normally lower than forward prices. Tin is needed by speculators who went short three months ago and whose contracts mature on February 25 and 26.

The LME committee is therefore faced with the real danger that a corner in tin has been built up. On Tuesday the committee said that after discussions with ring dealing members it had reached an understanding that the premium on cash tin should be limited to £120.

But market sources said that the supply tightness, which loomed later in the month and which was the authorities' main concern, had spread to almost all dates for February delivery. As a result, normal trading on the LME tin market has virtually ceased and the LME committee is faced with a major challenge.

Trading yesterday was largely limited to switching between different delivery dates as traders tried to match their obligations. Dealers have complained for several months that industry has left the market, and some fear that LME's reputation is being damaged.

The immediate cause of the squeeze is delay to tin shipments aggravated in the view of some traders by the misjudgment of market psychology by the LME committee. But behind these factors lies heavy buying since last July which traders believe has come from tin producers led by Malaysia. The buyers have spent at least £350m acquiring more than 50,000 tonnes of tin.

CBI Budget plans 'modest'

By Edward Townsend and Rupert Morris

The Confederation of British Industry's plea for a £1,800m boost for industry would not throw the Government's economic plans off course and out of kilter, Sir Terence Beckett, CBI director general siad yesterday.

He had issued a challenge to the government to accept the CBI's Budget proposals which he reckoned were modest, constructive and absolutely consistent with the government's overall objectives.

Speaking in London, Sir Terence said: "Even more important, they are one hundred per cent consistent with the best interests of United Kingdom trade and industry. That is why they deserve to be supported and adopted".

"What our package dies isto enable the Chancellor to keep one of the major promises of this government's election manifesto — to restore the health of our economic life and still control inflation."

The CBI is seeking an increase in productive investment in 1982-83 of £250m, risng to £1,000m the following year which would be more than offset by reductions in government current spending.

The National Insurance Surcharge, which the CBI wants cut by two per cent, was now widely recognised as a tax on jobs and home-produced goods and virtually a subsidy for imports, he said.

"In fact, NIS is the exact opposite of an export subsidy and if we attempted to levy such a subsidy we would soon have Gatt and the EEC breathing down our necks. How perverse can you get?"

Meanwhile a reduction in interest rates is the key to the recovery for British industry, according to the Association of British Chambers of Commerce in its budget submissions to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The association, which represents 57,000 member firms through its 87 local chambers, believes its approach to be more realistic than the CBI's "catch-all" package which it sees as lacking any consistent policy

Warning that failure to help industry cut costs and increase output will leave it not "leaner and fitter" but "smaller and weaker", the Association put forward two alternative strategies.

The first, and more favoured, strategy is simply to reduce the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement by £3,000m, immediately reducing interest rates and, so the argument goes, stimulating private investment and boosting output.

But anticipating that such a drastic pruning of the PSBR may prove politically impossible, the Association suggests an alternative approach based on reducing industry's costs.

This strategy requires a 50 per cent cut in employers' National Insurance Surcharge, cheaper energy for British firms, a reduction in public utility charges and investment in road and rail systems.

Jobbers hit by lean market

By Sally White

Roller-coaster share prices and the low ebb of interest in British equities last summer caused a slump at Smith Bros., one of the two quoted jobbing firms on the London market. There was a pretax loss of £798,000, as a result of which the dividend for the six months to October 23 has been halved at 0.5p, paid out of reserves.

Mr Anthony Lewis, the chairman, says there has been an appreciable improvement in trading in the third quarter. He adds: "It is impossible at this stage to forecast the results for the full year."

The loss per share is 3.7p as against earnings per share of 7p for the same period of the previous year.

Smith Bros. does not deal in gilt-edged stock but trades in 1,800 different shares across many of the equity sectors, and specializes in the gold market.

Business Editor, page 17

New rub-out pen joins £85m sales battle

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

A novel ball-point pen whose latex-based ink can be erased with a rubber is adding a new dimension to the already complex battle among different systems in the £85m-sales pens market.

A carbon-copy battle of the new throwaway erasable ballpoints seen in the United States between Gillette's Papermate range and Wilkinson Sword's Scripto starts next month in Britain. In the United States the tussle between these two companies, long rival in the razors market, has taken volume sales of the erasable ballpoints to as high a level as the rolling ball, the last big technology leap in pens.

The rolling ball pen, which first made a big sales impact just over three years ago, uses a wet ink in contrasst to the original ballpoints which employ thicker oil-based ink paste. Rolling ball pens account for at leasst 12 per cent by value of the UK market, according to Wilkinson Sword, but other trade sources claim 17 per cent and more.

The rolling ball, in which Japan's Pentel is market leader, is "a mutant" between the traditional ballpoint and the fountain pen (now with under 9 per cent market share by value). The description comes from Mr Graham White, marketing manager for Wilkinson Sword, a subsidiary of Allegheny International based in Pittsburgh in the Junited states.

He sees the erasable ballpoint as a variation between the traditional ballpoint and the pencil. Wood-case pencils is a £14m sector which pushes the total market to nearly £100m a year but Mr White expects the erasable ballpoint to hit sales not so much of pencils but of cheap traditional ballpoints.

This is because the biggest customers for erasable ballpoints, at about 39p a piece, are expected to be schoolchildren although there could also be some sales for office use. Accountants, whe appear to favour microfine pens, might be a target consumers when erasables appear in this category.

Little impact is foreseen on sales of fibre pens, another user of wet ink, which now account for about 16 per cent of the overall market by value, according to Mr White.

Risky decision facing brokers . . . Amstrad still riding high

Uncertainty over Futures Exchange

Senior partners of the Stock Exchange's 250 broking and jobbing firms should be told today that they can take up membership of Financial Futures Exchange (Liffe pronounced Life) will be at their own risk. (Philip Robinson writes.)

No decision has been made by the Exchange Council on whether to change its rules to allow members to operate in a dual capacity in Liffe while maintaining seperate capacity in the Stock Exchange.

Mr Peter Wills, deputy chairman of the Stock Exchange and the man who has headed a committee to look at how exchange members would fit in with Liffe, said yesterday that the council had made no firm decisions because there was no clear idea of how Liffe would work in practice.

What they have done is to set out guidelines which effectively say that the council could change its mind at any time depending on how Liffe progresses.

Three weeks of intense pressure, largely from the market's leading gilt brokers, ensured that no vote was taken last Tuesday when the council met to consider proposals about a change in the exchange rule book.

The exchange is having to decide on a question of principle. Bowing to pressure from some of its members, the council has been looking at ways of allowing members to act in a dual capacity role in Liffe while preserving an argument for separate capacity which it intends to put before the Restrictive Practices Court possibly next year or in 1984.

The Office of Fair Trading has already decided that the Stock Exchange rule book, which says jobbers must only make a market and brokers must only act as an agent, embodies a restrictive practice.

The brokers do not want any rule changes which might restrict their performance in Liffe. However, all members, alert to changing business of the exchange, will be concerned that rule changes could dilute its argument in the courts.

However, the Stock Exchange has already demonstrated its flexibility by allowing jobbers' overseas subsidiaries to act both as principals and agents within their countries.

What the brokers have to decide in the next 10 days is whether they are prepared to risk the £30,000 now needed to buy one of the 400 dealing seats just 30 yards from their bastion of separate capacity at the Corn Exchange.

The 25 firms who have already bought seats at the earlier and cheaper price of £20,000, even before Stock Exchange had considered their view, knew they were taking a risk. What the council has now said clearly is that anyone who wants to join them will do so on the same basis. But it is still arguable whether membership of Liffe should carry a stock exchange health warning.



Alan Sugar: market overcoming its prejudice

Hi-fi maker's soaring shares

Amstrad Consumer Electronics, the hi-fi manufacturer of Tottenham, has been riding high since its ordinary shares came to market in April 1980. The offer price of 85p was oversubscribed 10 times, and the shares have been on an upward trend ever since (Drew Johnston writes).

This week's 25p rise in the price to 205p comes less than a week ahead of the half year results. Although the market in the shares is relatively thin, as directors hold about three-quarters of the issued capital, great things are expected.

For the year to June 1981, Amstrad breached pretax profit forecasts of about £1.9m with £2.37m. Production has boomed since February last year when a plant was opened at Southend. Mr Alan Sugar, aged 34, the chairman, said the company plans to buy more land in the area for another factory.

Demand is outstripping supply at the moment, he says. Amstrad concentrates on racked hi-fi sets, although there are plans to introduce the increasingly popular micro hi-fi systems.

Another big seller has been citizens' band radios, where demand has settled since Christmas. Amstrad is the United Kingdom's biggest supplier.

One problem the company is slowly overcoming is institutional bias toward the shares. Market opinion initially suspected that Mr Sugar was a bright entrepreneur who took his company to market because it had run out of steam. However a proven ability to design products in demand has persuaded the stock market that Amstrad is a good longer-term investment.

Mr Sugar's formula has been to produce United Kingdom-designed hi-fi equipment with components from the Far East, although CB sets are Japanese.

New products will make increasing use of microchip technology and will expand the company's range.

No exports have been made to the Far East, nor are there plans for exports to North America. "It is not a good market, there is too much dumping of cheap Japanese imports", he said.

A recovery has been staged in exports to Europe. Demand in the home market has been so great that this is where the company has concentrated its efforts.

Amstrad has now entered the "close season" on sales and profit forecasts. Next week's results should show a substantial increase in sales. On past performance, overhead costs have been under tight control. If this trend has been continued, half-year profits should be good.

Lec looks good for growth

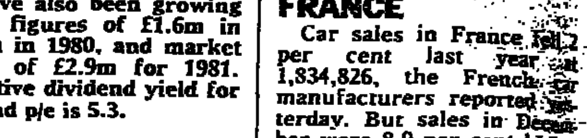
City opinion holds that Lec Refrigeration is one manufacturing company which has its priorities right (Drew Johnston writes). Expanded production has been aimed at the big growth area in the domestic refrigeration market — fridge-freezers.

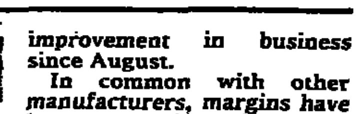
Lec has a firm export base and is strong on after-sales service. It is also financially sound. An absence of balance sheet debt, an above averge return on capital employed and tight overall management control have made it an attractive growth stock in the household market.

This profile and a market capitalization of about £11m has also made it the subject of takeover speculation from time to time. But a close family and director shareholding of about 50 per cent of the issued capital, and the board presence of Mr David Purley, son of Mr Charles Purley, chairman and founder, makes a takeover bid an unlikely prospect in the medium term.

Going all out for volume growth at the expense of gross margins while in the middle of recession calls for a strong nerve, but that is what has happened.

Profits have also been growing with pretax figures of £1.6m in 19790, £2.4m in 1980, and market expectations of £2.9m for 1981. The prospective dividend yield for 1981 is 5.0 and p/e is 5.3.





ITALY

The Italian Government lowered petrol prices yesterday by an average of 4.3 per cent, because prices of oil products are falling on international markets. This is the second time petrol has been cut in price in 12 years.

● Fiat, Italy's leading car maker, said yesterday that it will lay off 40,000 car and steel workers for one week next month and 60,000 workers for another week in April because of the number of unsold cars. It has already made 60,000 men, half its workforce, idle for two weeks this year.

W GERMANY

West Germany's industrial production in December dropped a seasonally adjusted 2 per cent compared with November, but was up about 0.5 per cent from December, 1980, it was announced yesterday. Orders were unchanged compared with November but up 1.9 per cent on the year before.

FRANCE

Car sales in France fell 2 per cent last year at 1,834,826, the French car manufacturers reported yesterday. But sales in December were 8.9 per cent higher than they were the year before.

The manufacturers' association said it was worried by the increase in sales of foreign cars, particularly West German, and a fall in French exports. It said this was due partly to new foriegn models and also to the difference between inflation rates in France and Germany.

BELGIUM

Japan will be unable to meet more demands after its recent "unique and unilateral concessions" to redress its trade surplus with the European Economic community, Mr Kunihko Saito, deputy head of ther Japanese mission to the EEC, told a press conference in Brussels. "It is now up to the Europeans to take advantage of the new possibilities."

JAPAN

Japan's Finance Ministry has appointed a 12-member advisory group of bankers, traders, industrialists and academics to study ways to deal with developments in Japanese and overseas financial markets following enforcement of the new foreign exchange control law in December 1980. The "study group on basic international financial problems" will discuss the possibility of a Tokyo offshore dollar centre, merits and demerits of the floating exchange rate system and trade and financial friction between Japan and Western countries.

CANADA

Canada will lend Can$600m (£268m) to Canadian companies involved in the construction of the Soviet trans-European gas pipeline, External affairs minister Mark MacGuihan said on Wednesday. The loan, to be granted by the Economic Development Corporation to several Canadian enterprises, will create 16,000 jobs.

Lovell

Call to raise £3.6m

A call on shareholders for a £3.6m rights issue by building and timber group Y. J. Lovell yesterday failed to budge the shares, standing at 274p, 2p off the year's high.

The news comes two weeks after the group reported last year's pretax profits ahead by 11 per cent to £3.12m and a higher dividend. The gloomy but predictable signs were losses in its timber importing business and plant hire companies.

The issue will raise 1.71 million new shares at 220p each on basis of one for four. A scrip issue of one for one is planned after the issue and shares issued before will also qualify.

Sir Peter Trench, chairman, said the group preferred to fund activities and expansion by an issue to increasing overall level of gearing which currently stands at 50 per cent to shareholder's funds. Borrowings at January 8 were £13.7m.

Lovell is pushing ahead in areas showing best growth potential. In current market conditions, this is better done from within its own resources than forward selling to financial institutions.

One such project is the joint venture into developing private hospitals with Seltahart Holdings. The first hospital, Clare Park Clinic, has been open for a year and is profitable, and another four hospitals are under construction or planned. Equity is needed for these investments, he said.

Property development, where Lovell earns some £1m from rental income, will continue to be expanded. Some 400 houses at the top end of the market were built last year and the group aims to increase its land stocks. Lovell is a market leader in partnership housing with local authorities and further developments are planned.

Sir Peter said the current year would be tough going but trading had started well. "Those who believe that the construction industry might be used as a vehicle for reflating the economy are in my view likely to be disappointed no matter what cogent arguments are raised in its favour," he said.

The group is forcasting that this year dividends will at least be maintained — it was lifted 14 per cent this year to 11.2 gross.

LONSDALE

Library Sale

Lonsdale Universal is to offer its bookselling division — a leading supplier of library books around the world — to shareholders to raise money to support its main businesses.

Lonsdale is currently working with Kleinwort, Benson, its financial advisers, on a scheme which will give the division a separate public quotation. Borrowings now stand at £3.4m against shareholders funds of £4.6m and the group is anxious to reduce the level further to channel funds into its other businesses — office equipment and stationery, technical and drawing office services, printing and engineering.

But it is the bookselling division which has a good earnings track record and produced the best set of profits last year. Results yesterday for the year to September showed a drop in pre-tax profits to £296,000 against £829,000 last time. This was achieved on sales down by £2m at £37.9m.

At the trading level, profits were £1.22m against £2.1m. But the real blow came from interest charges, albeit reduced, at £933,000 compared with £1.3m.

The best performance came from bookselling with profits of £563,000 against £425,000 on turnover of £11.4m. Lonsdale puts the ticket holders into library books and distributes some 25 million books around the world to liraries and educational centres. Mr A. Edwards, its managing director and chairman, will remain with the division.

Technical activities, against market conditions, did rather better with only a small decline to £762,000 against £869,000. Losses in the engineering division were £117,000 and printing profits fell some £200,000 to £318,000.

The group's shares were unchanged yesterday at 37p. Payment of a final dividend at 0.7p gross gives some room for cheer after it was passed last time, giving a total of 1.43p after last year's 2.64p gross.

BLUNDELL

Profits rise

Blundell-Permoglaze Holdings, the building industry paintmaker and supplier, yesterday announced a rise in pretax profits to £2m from £1.8m last year. As the market had expected that the pressures of recession would limit profits to last year's level there was a 13p rise in the ordinary share price to 107p when the results were announced.

Mr Robert White, chairman, said the improvement arose mainly from significant increases in exports. An exceptional order from one of the company's traditional Middle East markets played a leading part in the year's recovery.

"The industrial division has found the going particularly difficult in 1981. Its customers are of course all involved in manufacturing, the sector which has borne the main burden of the recession", he said.

Sales moved ahead to £25.7m from £23.7m, helped by trading at Federation Paints of Glasgow which Blundell bought for £600,000 in July.

The year saw a volume decline of between 6 and 7 per cent in the decorative paint market, equal to 150 million litres a year, which the company's performance reflected, Mr White said. But it managed to avoid the volume drop in the industrial paint market of between 16 and 17 per cent.

Blundell's volume increase here was about 8 per cent, but the market increase for export mopped ip these volume falls. The company's newly-opened Dublin factory begane to produce water-based paints during the year. Solvent-based paint production would begin by the end of the year, making the plant self-sufficient. Mr White also hinted that a European acquisition, most likely in Germany, was possible before next year end.

"There is very little importing of paint in industrialized countries, Most satisfy their own requirements. Factories have got to be close to where the paint is being sold," he said.

Earnings per ordinary share increased dramatically from 6.3p to 19.2p partly as a result of £266,000 tax credit.

Sue Packer



Mr Robert White, chairman of Blundell-Permoglaze

Half year dividend has been held at 2.28p gross per ordinary share, though total payout for the year is up from 6.85p to 8p gross.

STONEHILL

Holding on

Despite a continuing fall in sales, Sonehill Holdings, the furniture manufacturer, has managed to do what many competitors have failed to do and stay in profit, although this has fallen to £162,000 before tax in the 32 weeks to November 8, against £419,000 last time.

Turnover slipped from £10.92m to £9.93m and dividend at the half year is cut from 4p to 2p. Earnings per share were 0.64p against 2.64p.

Mr Philip Steinberg, chairman, notes the serious plight of the furniture industry, pointing out that the company has succeeded in earning a profit, and reports that there has been a marginal improvement in business since August.

In common with other manufacturers, margins have been cut substantially, but although there has been a fall of about 80 in the 1,000 workforce, this has come from natural wastage and not large scale redundancies.

S A I

Tough trading

Despite increased fertilizer sales volumes and higher selling prices Scottish Agricultural Industries failed to overcome difficult market conditions during 1981, and profits before tax slipped from £4.5m to £4.1m in the year to December.

Turnover rose 11 per cent to £102.18m. The dividend for the year is being maintained at 21p per share with a 12.86p final. On a current cost basis, the group incurred a pretax loss of £473,000 against a profit the previous year of £188,000.

The group, which is 62.4 per cent owned by ICI, tried to improve production efficiency but this was not enough to offset higher costs.

The 1981 accounts include a charge of £300,000 for plant closure and redundancy costs at Aberdeen, but this was largely offset by an exceptional credit of £200,030 in respect of local rates adjustment.

Borrowings were approaching £7m by the year end, up from £6.3m the previous year, but these peak in December owing to the seasonal nature of fertilizer buying, and for part of the year the group has a net cash position.

News of the results boosted the share price 3p to 186p, where it yields 11.3 per cent and is approaching its 1981-82 high of 195p.

BIDS AND DEALS

Burmah Oil has received acceptances covering 20.5. Croda International shares, representing 19.4 per cent of the ordinary shares or 17.6 per cent of total voting capital. It also received acceptances for some 220,000 deferred shares, or 0.18 per cent of the voting capital. The offers have been extended until February 11.

Burmah is forecasting dividends for 1982 of 7p (3.75p) a share.

Croda's board considers that shareholders should have knowledge now of Croda's 1982 divs. so that they can properly assess the value of Croda shares in the likely event that Burmah increases its offer and seeks to acquire ord. shares in the market at higher than 70p. The review of prospects for 1982 and later years is proceeding. Directors will comment in due course during the offer period on the outstanding prospects.

The outlook for Croda and the chemical sector generally over the next few years is so favourable that Croda says it would be a disservice to share holders not to forecast to shareholders not to forecast a level of divs. for 1982 appropoate to the outlook as a demonstration of the confidence the board has in the future. The board is therefore forcasting divs. for the year ending December 26 1982 of 7p an increase of 86 per cent over the 3.75p net recommended for 1981.

Acceptances of the ord. offer include an acceptance by Castrol, wholly owned by Burmah, in respect of 17.42m ord. shares (16.5 per cent of the ordinary share capital and 14.99 per cent of the total voting share capital) which were purchased on December 18 1981, before the offers were announced.

Other persuant to the offers no shares in Croda have been acquired or agreed to be acquired by Burmah since December 18.

Bell and Howell, the international information systems company, had acquired the whole of the issued share capital of Data Laboratories, the Mitcham (Surrey)-based maker of the Datalab range — currently market leader in the United Kingdom of high-technology instrumentation.

Data Laboratories will form part of the international electronics and instruments division of Bell and Howell, the British company responsible for operations on Euroe, Africa and the Middle East. Mr Steven Warman, Datalab's founder and managing director, and Mr Derek Bond, the division's United Kingdom technical director, have been appointed Datalab's joint managing directors.

"Datalab will keep its own identity in design and manufacturing", and also retain responsibility for marketing its products in the United Kingdom. Overseas, however, marketing will in future be strengthened by the existing network of Bell and Howell Companies, Mr Bond said.

This is expected to lead to a substantial increase in export sales, especially as Datalab's advanced equipment for the processing of high-speed and transient waveform complements Bell and Howell's own transducers, signal amplifiers and data recorders.

The group will now be able to offer a comprehensive product range, extending from the capture and storage of data to its retrieval and examination, as well as integrated systems for industrial, medical and military requirements.

Braid Group has acquired T. Simister for £490,000 cash. Simister operates a Ford main dealer in Macclesfield. The book value of the net assets at December 31, amounted to £392,000 and the pretax profit for the year to August 31 was £84,500. The acquisition adds a second Ford main dealership to the group.

Munton Brothers is to acquire Lillygould, a private company. The price will be £250,000 in either cash or ordinary shares in Munton, which when placed on behalf of the vendor will provide a net sum of £250,000 after commission and expenses; and 476,190 ordinary shares in Munton which the vendors will retain for minimum of a year; together with an amount equal o 30 per cent of the adjusted axable trading profits of Lillyjould for the year to April 30, 983.

Johnson Group Cleaners has acquired through their Johnson Group US Holding company the share capital of Tuchman Cleaners, and Tuchman Realty Inc of Indianapolis, for $1.75m cash (£940,000). Annual sales are $3.6m and net asset value is about *1.9m.

Tuchman is the leading dry cleaner in Indianapolis, state capital of Indiana, where it has 29 retail shops. Other activities include apparelmaster garment rental, and some commercial laundry and cleaning of household upholstery fabrics.

Caravans International has sold its factory at Poole, Dorset, which formerly housed the Bluebird static holiday caravan manufacturing business, for £315,000 cash. It was sold as part of the group's reorganization. Net profits of the sale exceeded the net book value of the property by some £300,000, to be used in a further reduction of the company's term loan.

Donald Macpherson Group has acquired Briggs & Townsend from Johnson & Firth Brown for total £1.8m cash to be paid over one year. It represents the value of net assets as at December 31.

CAPITAL MARKETS

Japanese underwriters: Four leading Japanese securities companies have cut Japanese companies' plans for Eurobond flotation in the second quarter this year to between $1,100m (£591m) to $1,200m from an estimated $2,200m in the first quarter, securities industries industry sources reported in Tokyo.

Nomura Secuurities, Nikko Securities, Daiwa Securities and Yamaichi Securities made the reduction to prevent a rush of Japanese issues, mostly convertible bonds, from disrupting the market as they did last September.

Societe Generale is raising $250m (£134m) through a 13-year retractable floating-rate note on the Eurobond market, the lead manager, Samuel Montagu, reported in London yesterday.

Paying a margin of ¼ per cent over a six-month London Interbank offered rates, the issue can be retracted to eight years at the investor's option if notice is given in 1985. Payment is due on March 1.

S Korea

Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, arrived in Seoul from Japan and said Britain was ready to provide capital and technology for South Korea's subway, nuclear power, steel and defence industry projects. He also urged South Korea to increase imports of British-made goods.

LATEST RESULTS

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Blundell-P. (F)	25.7(23.7)	2.05(1.8)	19.2(6.3)	1.6(1.6)	—	5 6(4.8)
Glanfield Law (F)	12.3(9.82)	0.13a(0.2a)	0.3(6.0a)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Lonsdale Univ (F)	37.9(39.9)	0.29(0.82)	1.16(6.0)	0.5(—)	—	1(1.85)
S.A.I. (F)	102.1(92.11)	4.13(4.44)	—(—)	9(9)	2/4	14.7(14.7)
Smith Bros (I)	1,728(1,479)	0.79a(1.4)	3.7a(7.0)	0.5(1)	26/3	—(3.0)
Stonehill (I)	9.93(10.92)	0.16(0.41)	0.64(2.84)	2(4)	7(4)	—(8.5)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. a=Loss.

COMMODITIES

COPPER was steadier:- Afternoon.-Higher grade cash, £867-68; three months £896.50-97.50. Sales: 4,500 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £864-66 three months, £893-94: Sales: nil tonnes. Morning:- Higher grade cash, £864-65.00; three months £894-95.00. Settlement, £865.00. Sales 8,775 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £863-65.00: three months, £891-93.00. Settlement, £865.00. Sales: 100 tonnes.

TIN was steady:- Afternoon.- Standard cash, £8940-50 a tonne: three months £8040-50. Sales, 590 tonnes. High grade, cash £8940-50: three months £8040-50. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.-Standard cash £8950-60: three months £8020-30. Settlement, £8960. Sales, 1,230 tonnes. High grade, cash £8950-60: three months, £8020-30. Settlemnet, £8960. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, SM 34.70 a picul.

LEAD was barely steady. — Afternoon. — Cash £340-41 per tonne: three months £349-49.50. Sales, 2,700 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £344-44.50: three months £353.50-54.00. Settlement £344.50. Sales, 5,075 tonnes.

ZINC was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash £450-51 per tonne: three months £457-58. Sales, 3,325 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £450.50-51.00; three months £455.50-56.00. Settlement. £451.00. Sales, 4,300 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £197.95 ($369) a troy ounce.

SILVER was steadier. — Bullion market (fixing levels). — Spot, 450.70p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 841.00): three months, 465.90p (872.40c): six months, 481.45p (904.20c): one year, 512.00p (965.90c). London Metal Exchange. — Afternoon. — Cash, 448-49p: three months, 464-65.5p. Sales, 37 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning. — Cash, 448-49.0p: three months, 464.1-64.2p. Settlement, 449.0p. Sales, 36 lots.

ALUMINUIM was largely steady. — Afternoon. — Cash, £592-95 per tonne: three months £615-16. Sales, 1,900 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £595-596.00: three months £618.50-19.00. Settlement, £596.00. Sales, 4,075 tonnes.

NICKEL was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash £3,102.25 per tonnes: three months £3,155-60. Sales, 168 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £3,125-35: three months £3,160-65. Settlement, £3,135. Sales, 228 tonnes.

RUBBER (pence per kilo). — Mch 49.20-50.10; Apl 49.80-50.40; Apl-Jne 51-51.10; Jly-Sep 54.60-54.70; Oct-Dec 58-58.20; Jan-Mch 61.30-61.40; Apl-Jne 64.30-64.40; Jly-Sep 67.40-67.60; Oct-Dec 70.50-70.60. Sales: 158 at 15 tonnes.

COFFEE. — **ROBUSTAS** (£ per tonne): Mch 1,258-1,287; May 1,308-1,209; Jly 1,170-1,171; Sep 1,162-1,1164; Nov 1,147-1,156; Jan 1,140-1,145; Mch 1,130-1,140. Sales: 6,327 lots including 80 options.

COCOA (£ per metric ton): Mch 1182-1184: May 1161-1162: Jly 1171-1172: Sep 1183-1185: Dec 1200-1201: Mch 1210-1214: May 1215-1225. Sales: 1,485 lots. ICCO prices: daily (Feb. 3), 93.86c; indicator price, (Feb 4) 5-day average, 94.58 c. (US cents per lb.).

SUGAR. — The London daily price of "raws £3.00 lower at £168: the "whites" price was unchanged at £175. Futures (£ per tonne): Mch 173.90-174.00; May 177-177.50; Aug 179.85-180.75 Oct 183-184; Jan 184-185.50 Mch 188.20-188.50; May 190-191. Sales: 5,827 lots. ISA prices (Feb. 3): daily, 13.12 c; 15-day average, 13.13c.

SOYABEAN MEAL (£ per tonne): Feb 131-131.50; Apl 133.40-133.70; Jne 132.60-132.70 Aug 133-133.20; Oct 133.50-136.00; Dec 134-136.50; Feb 134-139. Sales: 166 lots.

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Feb 4: GB Cattle 102.13 p per kg lw (40.23); UK Sheep 198.03 p per kg est d c w (-6.65); GB Pigs 80.10 p per kg lw (42.68). England and Wales: Cattle nos down 3.5 per cent, ave price 101.72p (-0.01); Sheep nos up 3.2 per cent, ave price 198.21p (-6.32); Pig nos down 17.1 per cent, ave price 80.10p (+2.68). Scotland: Cattle nos up 5.7 per cent, ave price 103.29p (+0.82); Sheep nos down 21.5 per cent, ave price 197.26p (-7.74).

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE ($ US per tonne) — Feb 283.50-284.00; Mar 279.25-279.50; Apr 273.25-273.75; May 271.50-272.00; Jun 271.50-272.00; Jly 273.00-273.50; Aug 271.00-285.00; Sep 275.00-280.00; Oct 278.00-285.00. Sales: 2,574 lots of 100 tonnes each.

POTATOES (Gafta).-Feb £101.50; April £136.50; Nov £98.90. Sales: 313

WALL STREET

New York, Feb 4. — Prices opened lower in active trading. The Dow Jones industrial average, which fell 7.52 pts on Wed, was off 0.86 pt to 844.17 shortly after the market opened.

299 among the 1,026 issues crossing the tape. Early big board volume amounted to about 2.49m shares.

While the initial trend was down, observers said they believed the market may be bolstered by some bargain hunting following severe setbacks this week.

	Feb 3	Feb 2		Feb 3	Feb 2		Feb 3	Feb 2
Allied Chem	42	42¼	Fst Nat Boston	41½	41⅞	Procter Gamble	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allied Stores	24¼	25	Fst Penn Corp	3	3	Pub Ser El & Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allis Chalmers	13¼	13½	Ford	[illegible]	[illegible]	Raytheon	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Canadian Prices

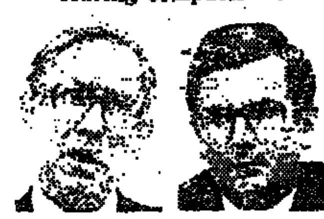
* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

PEOPLE

ICL heads for the City

Businessmen who take Government money and occasionally honours — John De Lorean, Sir Michael Edwardes (BL), Sir Peter Parker (BR) and Lord Kearton of British National Oil Corporation tend to lose their City clout the moment they take the Queen's shilling.

Will Christophor Laidlaw (chairman) and Robb Wilmot (managing director) of ICL, our leading computer maker,



ICL's Laidlaw and Wilmot

stand out in this dismal crowd? Yesterday Mr Laidlaw and his right hand man met a gaggle of City institutions and stockbrokers, one lot in the morning and the other in the afternoon, to convince them that they, (and the group) had a future.

Mr Wilmot, one must remember is the City's best paid 36-year-old (£150,000 a year) with a Wimbledon house worth nearly £300,000 (why pick on Lord Grade or Ralph Halpern of Burton?). Moreover, the dynamic duo had the City's money men eating out of their hands at the end of an hour long session.

Briefy, ICL, recently the butt of a Government £200m rescue, is on target for around £30m of profits after 1980-81's £50m of losses, and many more deals like the one with Fujitsu of Japan are on the way. Promises, they say, are gifts for fools, and ones made informally can only be for idiots. Whatever, the duo yesterday told the City what it wanted to hear.

This may not be the moment to say so, but if you fancy your chances with Red Ken and Blue Maggie, why not call London Transport, where a successor to the embattled Sir Peter Masefield as £36,000 a year chairman of LT is being sought. Tyzack & Co, the headhunters, I hear, have been let off the leash and ordered to bring back somebody, preferably in his or her early 50s who from this March or so could take on one or possibly two five-year terms.

Life on the Left Bank

To the relief of the rather conservative staff of France's second largest bank, Crédit Lyonnais, their new chairman is Jean Deflassieux, aged 56, who for the last 10 years has been in charge of the international department. There had been fears that the government might choose a Communist idealogue like Phillipe Herzog.

Deflassieux cooperated with the Left under his Resistance pseudonym Jean-Pierre Barel and he was largely responsible for preparing the Socialist Party's plan for the nationalization of the French banking sector. Crédit Lyonnaise was nationalized just after the war and the government will merely take over the minority held by employees. Ironically, the employee-shareholders may now receive only 342F for their stock instead of 711F as originally promised.

Deflassieux takes over from a close collaborator of former President Giscard D'Estaing, Claude Pierre-Brossolette.

Here endeth the third week of the new People column, and here beginneth a new editor. From Tuesday morning I shall be handing over to my colleague, Peter Wainwright, whom I shall commend to you. As for me, I shall be occupying this space on Mondays only with Inter-City, Business News's new regional column. See you Monday.

Ross Davies

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr Philip G. Ratcliff has been appointed managing director of UTP Packaging Company. He succeeds Mr Sidney A. Bailey who will continue in his capacity as chairman.

Mr William R. O. Griffiths has been appointed a director of William Leech.

Mr Walter Telfer has been appointed to the board of Low & Bonar as finance director.

Dr Iain Anderson has been appointed chairman of the international fragrance and flavour company PPF which was formed by the recent merger of Proprietary Perfumes, Food Industries and Bertrand Frères.

Mr Peter Samuel has been appointed chairman of Samuel Properties. He succeeds Viscount Bearsted, who has retired.

Mr Peter Paine, managing director of Tyne Tees Television, and Mr Robert Phillis, managing director of Central Independent Television have been appointed to the board of Independent Television News.

Mr Neville Simms has been appointed to the board of Tarmac Construction.

Mrs Georgina Andrews has been appointed a director of S. Simpson. Mrs Andrews has been a director of the retail subsidiary company, Simpson (Piccadilly) since January 1977.

Peter Wilson-Smith on the progress of proposals to reform London's insurance market

Final hurdles for the Lloyd's Bill

The Lloyd's Bill to bring up to date the archaic rules and procedures of the London insurance market where the rich and famous stake their fortunes, lurched another small step forward in its tortuous path through Parliament this week.

The Bill — which will modernize self-regulatory procedures dating back to the 1871 Lloyd's Act — has caused deep divisions among the 20,000 underwriting members of Lloyd's, among those who actually work in the market and among the Lloyd's broking community.

Despite the intensive examination the Bill was subjected to by the House of Commons committee headed by the incisive Mr Michael Meacher, Labour MP for Oldham West, divisions still remain. But in face of delaying tactics by Conservative backbenchers on Wednesday night, the Bill looks set to continue on its course.

The motion to start the report stage of the Bill was finally carried without a division on Wednesday and providing more time is found for the Bill, which seems likely, the next stage will be to consider amendments. Although some 23 amendments were tabled the Speaker has whittled these down to two covering the main issues of legal "immunity" for the new ruling council and "divestment" — the clause which would force brokers to sell off their underwriting interests.

It seems that another two three-hour sessions may be found to debate these two issues and Lloyd's itself remains confident. Mr Peter Miller, the Lloyd's committee member who has had the unenviable task of trying to pilot the Bill through, said: "We are confident that the Government will find further time to enable the examination of the amendments to be concluded and to allow the Bill to move to a third reading and then to the House of Lords."

Mr Miller feels the Bill could get the Royal Assent by mid-summer and remains adamant that Lloyd's has no intention of making any more compromises.

However the opponents of the Bill are still set on forcing through changes. Mr Malcolm Pearson, of Lloyd's broker Pearson Webb Springbett, has been campaigning fiercely to get the immunity clause removed from the Bill. Mr Pearson, who has been working closely with Conservative backbenchers, said yesterday that the battle would continue.

"The market is now against this Bill and I think it is very foolish to blunder on with it", he said. Mr Pearson believes it is foolish of Lloyd's to include Clause 14, the immunity clause, when it risks bringing down the Bill, and he believes that Wednesday night's debate showed as much.

"It showed that there are seven to eight Tory MPs who object strongly enough to Clause 14 to do everything they can to frustrate the Bill," he says.

Certainly the possibility of the Tory backbenchers talking the Bill out still cannot be discounted. They demonstrated on Wednesday night that they were capable of doing so although it seemed equally clear that the Bill's opponents did not want to kill it altogether.



Peter Green, Lloyd's chairman, amid the clamour

The one point on which most in Parliament and those involved with Lloyd's agree, is that a Bill is urgently needed. It has become increasingly apparent in recent years in the wake of the various scandals such as the Sasse affair, the troubles surrounding the Christopher Moran Group, and the Savonita affair, that the powers of the Lloyd's committee are both inadequate and outdated.

A recent example involving the Christopher Moran Group serves to illustrate this. The committee is presently trying to expel Mr Reid Wilson, a Lloyd's underwriter formerly connected with the Moran Group, from membership of the market for what it describes as acts "discreditable to him as an underwriter". Mr Wilson began in 1979 and only last month Lloyd's announced its findings.

However it now needs a four-fifths vote of members at a special meeting to expel him, and all this nearly three years after it first started investigating the issue.

Of the two main issues now surrounding the bill — immunity and divestment — the latter was carefully examined at the committee stage and in the view of Michael Meacher is crucial to the Bill. "If divestment were not included I would not want the bill to be passed," he says.

The opposition to divestment, which was included at the insistence of the Commons Committee, has been spearheaded by the Alexander Howden group, a Lloyd's broker with big underwriting interests.

Immunity remains a much more contentious issue. The Committee of Lloyd'd remains adamant that it must be included. It argues that without some form of immunity it would not be able to carry out its new regulatory duties properly.

The committee fears that if it is to be able to take action against recalcitrant members it must be able to do so without fear that it will be sued for damages should, for instance, a suspended member be prevented from working but ultimately cleared from wrongdoing.

Lloyd's believes that a newly formed council's effectiveness as a regulatory body would be greatly impaired without this kind of immunity although it has conceded that members should be able to sue for damages resulting from clerical error attributable to Lloyd's.

Further Lloyd's has argued that it is ultimately the members who make up the Lloyd's community who have to bear the losses if a member sues and this is inconsistent with the spirit of the market where members undertake the risk of losses "each for his own part and not one for another."

Opponents of immunity, however, fear that it would place Lloyd's above the law and point to the Sasse affair where the members of the Sasse syndicate, which was suspended facing losses of more than £20m, sued Lloyd's claiming that market systems were at fault. A compromise deal was worked out under which the Lloyd's community footed the bill for more than £15m of the losses.

The immunity clause has already been modified during the course of the Bill through parliament, and the Meacher Committee rejected the original open-ended proposals which would have left it to the Lloyd's committee to draw up immunities under by-laws. Instead the Meacher Committee insisted that the immunities should be specifically stated in the Bill.

However Lloyd's committee, says Mr Peter Miller, feels that it has made enough compromises and it is not prepared to budge again.

So as the Bill heads for the next stage the behind-the-scenes meetings and lobbying continue amid bluff and counter-bluff from those trying to push it through and those trying to prevent it; those who feel the Bill is all or partly along the right lines and those who feel that any new Bill will only tend to stultify the freedom of the market.

If the Bill does reach the statute books there is still no guarantee that a new Lloyd's council will use its new found powers effectively. But, if the Bill does not the issue of regulation at Lloyd's will be thrust back in the hands of the Government a prospect unlikely to appeal to anyone in the market.

In the meantime while it is asking too much to expect total agreement from any institution with 20,000 members, there is little doubt that the reputation of Lloyd's has not been enhanced by the squabbling and disagreement which has surfaced during the last few years. There are many in the market who will breathe a sigh of relief when the battle over the Bill has been finally resolved.

The story behind the Bill:

1979: Following a succession of scandals Lloyd's decides to set up a working party under former High Court judge Sir Henry Fisher to examine and recommend on its self-regulatory powers.

June 1980: Fisher Report is published and recommends wide ranging changes to bring the insurance market's procedures up to date. It urges setting up new ruling council for the market with non-working underwriting representatives, a wider range of penalties and divestment of underwriting agents by insurance brokers. Report includes a draft bill which would transfer to newly-formed council the rule-making and disciplinary powers vested in a general meeting of members.

Nov 1980: At Albert Hall meeting Lloyd's members vote for introduction of Lloyd's bill based on Fisher Report proposals — excluding divestment.

Jan 1981: Newly formed External Names Association decides to fight for changes in Bill.

May 1981: House of Commons committee headed by Mr Michael Meacher shocks Lloyd's by demanding both divestment and divorce.

July 1981: Lloyd's members vote for divestment but not for divorce and Commons committee agrees.

Dec 1981: Commons committee rejects petition from Alexander Howden, a Lloyd's broker with extensive underwriting interests, to remove divestment clause from Bill.

Jan 1981: Opposition grows to Clause 14 which would give new ruling council of Lloyd's immunity from being sued for damages by members. Conservative backbenchers threaten to try to block Bill unless Lloyd's compromises.

Bank's electronic war on forgery

TECHNOLOGY: COMPUTER SECURITY

By Clive Cookson

From May, customers of the Nacional Financiale Bank will have to sign on an electronic pad before they withdraw money from any of the 50 branches in Mexico City. A microprocessor will analyse each signature as it is written and make sure that it matches the customer's "reference signature" stored in the bank computer.

The Mexican trial will be the world's first commercial application of electronic signature verification — a security precaution that is likely to become a common method of personal identification within a few years.

The verification system, known as Verisign, is supplied by a new British company, Transaction Security, which is 40 per cent owned by Finance For Industry. It s technology was derived from research at the National Physical Laboratory, licensed through the British Technology Group.

While a practiced forger can produce a false signature that looks virtually identical to the real thing, experiments show that no one can imitate the speed and rhythm with which another person writes. Therefore, Versisign measures not only shape — including the area of the signature, length of ink on the paper, number of line crossings, up strokes and down strokes — but also the timing — such as speed and acceleration, sequence of dotting Is and crossing Ts.

The National Physical Laboratory's original Verisign hardware used an ordinary ball-pen or pencil on a pressure-sensitive pad; writing on it made electrical contact between two membranes in the pad. But this has moved on to an "electronic pen", which sets up an electromagnetic field detected by sensors in the pad. It does not depend on contact and can follow the pen's movement while it is off the pad. An advantage is that it does not wear out so easily.

Richard Francis

Signing in — technical manager Rod Beatson and secretary Susan Kennett

When a new user — say, a bank customer — comes to Verisign for the first time, he is asked to sign five times on the pad. The computer analyses the shape and timing of the signatures and, if there are unusual inconsistencies, it automatically requests some more. The samples are processed to produce a reference signature.

If one of the standard measures varies too much in a signature, the computer will not take that particular feature into account in his reference signature. For example, size would be dropped for someone whose signature was sometimes large and sometimes small, so the system would not always challenge his identity.

Everyone has enough stable but unique writing features to make a reference signature.

By means of coded mathematical operations known as algorithms, the Verisign software converts the reference signature into a few hundred binary digits, which may be stored in the memory of a central computer or on the magnetic stripe of a credit or identity card.

Whenever the user signs in, he generates a new stream of digits which have to be almost identical to the reference to be accepted. The difference allowed between reference and actual signatures is set to accomodate the variability of an individual's writing without accepting a forgery.

The bank or other owner of a Verisign system can automatically vary the rejection threshold to reflect the value of a transaction or the damage that false acceptance would cause. For example, the threshold would be very low for someone withdrawing £100,000 — offending a genuine customer is far less serious than handing the cash to a forger. And, of course, the rejected customer can be given the opportunity to prove his identity in another way. But for withdrawals of £100 the threshold could be raised considerably without much financial risk.

When a prototype Verisign terminal was used to protect access to Esso's IBM computer, it correctly authorised 580 users and rejected only four genuine signatures. All 180 attempted forgeries were rejected during the experiment, said Mr Rod Beatson, TSL technical manager.

Of course, signature is not the only personal characteristic that could be used for electronic identification. Alternatives include fingerprints, hand geometry and voice recognition. But Mr David Law, TSL managing director, believes that signing is the most socially acceptable method for institutions that deal with the public.

A signature is a traditional guarantee of one's identity, and bank customers find it natural to sign for money. Speaking into a voice recognition machine would not come so easily, Mr Law maintains.

TSL was the first commercial enterprise to take up the National Physical Laboratory's Verisign technology. Next will be Quest Automation, which is incorporating it under the name Q Sign in an existing product called Micropad.

Micpopad is a terminal that converts hand written letters and numbers into electronic code for entry into a computer. It will be available with Q Sign in the second half of this year. The company is also developing Q Sign as an independent device, for physical access to secure areas or for entry to computers.

Electronics companies in the United States are also working on signature verification. The leader of the American pack is probably Sycon of California, which has taken up technology developed by the Stanford Research Institute. But Britain still seems to have the lead.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crds.	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams & Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000 11%, £10,000 up to £50,000 12%, £50,000 and over 12¼%.

Business Editor

Borrowing on course

After the overshoots of the past couple of years it look as if the government's original estimate for the public sector borrowing requirement (£10,600m) will prove rather closer to the mark this time round. Not, as we already know, that the government is fully on top of its spending targets this year, but the day seems set to be saved by revenue proving rather more buoyant than expected.

For the first nine months the PSBR comes out at just over £9,700m, a figure inflated by about £3,000m as a result of the civil servants' disruption of tax revenue last year. Of the £3,000m itself, £500m or so relates to additional interest charges sustained as a result of the delay in receiving tax revenue, and the remainder to revenue still owing.

The last quarter is never that easy to predict, largely because of uncertainties relating to local authoritis and public corporations. This year, for instance, the full year local authority borrowing requirement authorities remain roughly in balance.

When the Chancellor comes to present his Budget he will not, of course, know the likey full year outcome with total precision. That may be just as well. For though some analysts still expect the full year figure to overshoot marginally, others are now looking for an undershoot. Presentationally, it would be far more convenient for the Chancellor to be able to announce tax cuts and show a significant cut in next year's PSBR when he sets out his strategy on March 9.

Oil taxation Change needed

With little more than a month to go to the Budget, there are two things that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has to decide about the current North sea oil taxation regime. One is whether the overall burden of taxation is too high. The other is whether the whole fiscal system is in need of a thorough overhaul, to take account of the changed circumstances since the North Sea first came on stream six-and-a-half years ago.

The second question is much easier to answer than the first. Even the most ardent critic of the oil industry is unable to deny that the current four-tier system of off shore oil taxation (royalty, special petroleum duty, peroleum revenue an corportion tax) is — choosing one's words with care — outdated, inequitable, anomalous and inefficient. The great merit of the latest oil tax submission, from two academics at Aberdeen University, is that it has spelled out, cooly, and without partiality, just how anachronistic the present regime has become.

It is clearly absurd, for example, that the tax regime should make it more profitable for an oil company with one major field under its belt to develop a nearby "satellite/discovery" as a separate (and therefore more expensive) operation when it could be more cheaply developed by being tied into the existing production facilities. Yet that is what the current tax regime, in several instances, effectively encourages.

The truth is that the oil price explosion during 1979 and 1980 has rendered the original North Sea tax arrangements obsolete. Last year's temporary expedient of a crude tax on revenue, the Special Petroleum duty, was acknowledged by the Chancellor to be a less than perfect attempt to cream off some of the windfall profits generated by the oil price rises.

If the Chancellor can persuade the Inland Revenue to carry out the necessary work in time, there is no question that he should scrap the existing cumbersome system and replace it with a single coherent tax on profits. Only then can he ensure that the nation (as represented by the taxpayer) is collecting the maximum economic rent from the North Sea. The Institute of Fiscal Studies, and now the Aberdeen University team, have suggested schemes that in theory will go a long way towards meeting these ends — without endangering the amount of revenue the Treasury receives from the North Sea.

Is it too much to hope that these ideas can be pursued? This year, probably, yes. Despite the cries of "wolf" from the oil companies, there is little concrete evidence so far that the oil companies are paying more, en masse, than they can afford — or are willing to pay — for the right to exploit our offshore oil reserves. If they are (and there was no one more convinced last year that they were not than Mr Nigel Lawson, then a Treasury minister and now Energy Secretary), then the excess is only marginal.

German steel Re-alignment

The deal announced yesterday between Krupp Stahl and Estel Hoesch represents a major reconstruction of the ailing West German steel industry, albeit that the merging of the companies' bulk steel interests does not go as far as the Bonn government would have wished. The government wanted to put together Krupp, Hoesch and the publicly-owned Salzgeitter.

However, the new Ruhrstahl will become the second largest steel producer, just behind Thyssen, making about 12 million metric tonnes a year.

The merger is, of course, defensive. The industry has been hit by plummeting demand, especially from the construction industry, and West German steel-makers continually complain at the large subsidies poured by the British and French governments into their competing industries. Thyssen's world-wide steel interests lost £1.7m last year after a £25m profit previously. Losses have continued into the first quarter this year and a £100m plus rights issue is planned. In 1981, Thyssen lost £13 on every tonne of steel produced. A price rise of £32 per tonne should help Thyssen into the black while the merger will establish a fitter, leaner group for the challenges of recession and subsidised competition.

Anyone reading doom for the jobbing system in the pretax loss reported by Smith Bros yesterday is being premature, even though drastic restructuring is currently being contemplated by many sections of the City. In its latest trading period Smith was caught by the switching of institutional attention to overseas markets and to interest rates. London equities were out of fashion. Also Smith is particularly associated with South African gold shares, another poor market, and the period took in last September's "Black Monday" when the index plummeted and then recovered equally sharply.

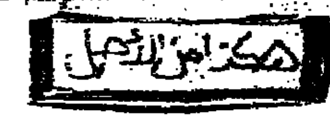
Just to show that the conditions in the first half of the year were unusual Smith has only cut the dividend by half. Conditions so far in the second half are much improved, though it is too early to say if the dividend could be restored at the year end.

The half-year loss is not large in terms of the group's balance sheet. But the sort of scare given by "Black Monday" and the cost of running books with the continuing high level of interest rates does not help jobbers run books that allow for healthy markets.

The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
123	100	ABI Bldgs 10% CULS	121	—	10.0	8.3	—	—
75	62	Airsprung Group	70	—	4.7	6.7	11.1	15.4
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	45	—	4.3	9.6	3.8	8.5
205	187	Bardon Hill	204	—	9.7	4.8	9.9	12.1
104	77	Deborah Services	77	-2	6.0	7.8	3.8	7.2
130	97	Frank Horsell	128	—	6.4	5.0	11.5	23.7
78	39	Frederick Parker	78	—	1.7	2.2	33.9	—
78	46	George Blair	50	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	IPC	96	+1	7.3	7.6	6.9	10.4
105	100	Isis Conv Pref	105	—	15.7	15.0	—	—
113	95	Jackson Group	95	—	7.0	7.4	3.0	6.7
130	108	James Burrough	112	—	8.7	7.8	8.2	10.3
334	250	Robert Jenkins	250	—	31.3	12.5	3.5	8.8
59	51	Scruttons "A"	55	—	5.3	9.6	8.5	7.9
222	164	Torday & Carlisle	164	-1	10.7	6.5	5.3	9.8
15	10	Twinlock Ord	13	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinlock 15% ULS	76	—	15.0	19.7	—	—
44	22	Unilock Holdings	27	—	3.0	11.1	4.8	8.2
103	75	Walter Alexander	75	—	6.4	8.5	4.9	8.7
263	212	W. S. Yeates	218	—	13.1	6.0	4.1	8.4

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146





Stock Exchange Prices

Equities retreat

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 25. Dealings End Feb 12. § Contango Day, Feb 15. Settlement Day, Feb 22

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

[illegible]

MEDIUMS

[illegible]

LONGS

[illegible]

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

[illegible]

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

[illegible]

DOLLAR STOCKS

[illegible]

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

[illegible]

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

[illegible]

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A — B

[illegible]

C — E

[illegible]

F — H

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
148	85	Gen Mtr BDR	99	..	5.1	5.2	..
100	45	Gestetner 'A'	61	• −1	3.8	6.1	20.9
84	20	Gieves Grp	38	..	..e	..	..
237	143	Gill & Duffus	177	+4	12.0	6.8	11.8
57	30	Glasgow Pavilion	41				
114	55	Glass Glover	114	a +2	3.6b	3.1	17.5
458	242	Glaxo Hldgs	476	−6	18.1	3.4	14.0

[illegible]

I — L

[illegible]

M — N

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
35	22	Mang Bronze	31	..	3.1	10.0	..
154	72	Marchwiel	138	+1	8.6	6.2	..
145	106	Marks & Spencer	143	..	5.8	4.0	19.5
51	33½	Marley Ltd	47	+1	3.2	6.8	15.3
37	14½	Marling Ind	36	..	1.4	3.9	25.2
48	22	Marshall T Lox	48	+6	4.0	8.3	4.3
46	21	Do A	46	+6	4.0	8.6	4.1
289	173	Martin News	280	..	13.9	5.0	6.1
270	208	Martonair	226	−2	10.9	4.8	13.2
74	43	Medminster	68	+4	5.3	7.8	7.3
250	148	Menzies J.	238	+5	5.6	2.4	11.9
204	128	Metal Box	183	..	16.5	9.3	15.8
52½	37½	Metalrax	42	+2	3.1	7.4	6.9
25	12	Mettoy	15	..	0.1	0.8	..

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
91	50	Meyer M. L.	77	+1	3.1	4.0	..
93	48	Midland Ind	68	..	3.7	5.5	..
173	82	Milletts Leis	85	..	9.9	11.7	8.3
180	88	Mining Supplies	110	..	2.9	2.6	12.4
66	43½	Mitchell Cotts Gp	54	−½	5.2	9.8	14.0
90	61	Mixconcrete	90	..	5.8	6.4	..
29	12	Mohan Grp	29	..	..n	..	6.7

[illegible]

O — S

[illegible]

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
188	92½	Swire Pacific 'A'	104	−½	..	..	..
195	140	Syltone	195	..	12.9	6.6	21.6

T — Z

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
26	15	TACE	20	..	..e	..	6.0
121	85	TSL Therm Synd	93	..	10.0	10.8	5.1
25⅜	10⅝	Takeda BDR	£24½	+⅛	17.6	0.7	28.7
6½	2½	Talbex Grp	4¼				
440	316	Tarmac Ltd	438	−2	23.3	5.3	7.5
220	126	Tate & Lyle	216	−2	16.4	7.6	5.8
607	441	Taylor Woodrow	550	..	19.0	3.3	10.3

1981/82 High	Low	Company
400	250	Telephone Rent
71	49½	Tesco
125	64	Textured Jersey
501	282	Thorn EMI
335	128	Tilbury Cont
194	132	Tilling T.
67½	34	Time Products
74½	33	Titaghur

[illegible]

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

[illegible]

INSURANCE

[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

SHIPPING

[illegible]

MINES

[illegible]

OIL

[illegible]

PROPERTY

[illegible]

RUBBER

[illegible]

TEA

[illegible]

MISCELLANEOUS

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
46	27¾	Calcutta Elec	45	..	8.8	19.5	..
34½	29	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£33	..	500	15.2	..
34	20	Gt Nthn Tele	£33	..	150	4.6	12.4
265	158	Imp Cont Gas	215	−5	11.9	5.5	13.6
150	93	Milford Docks	150	+5	0.7	0.5	..
193	122	Nesco Inv	135	..	10.0	7.4	..
35	29½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£33	..	500	15.2	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
A and G Sec Elect 5p Ord (80a)	82
Baillie Gifford Japan Trust 25p Ord (100)	98
City Site 25p Ord (35a)	30
Computer and Systems Eng 20p Ord (225)	235
Cussins Property Group 20p Ord (82)	86
Equipu 10p Ord (88a)	83
Good Relations Group 10p Ord (61a)	70+4
Hardanger Properties 10p Ord (100a)	98
Hayters £1 Ord (150a)	160
Moray Firth Exp	108+8
Newmarket Cb (1981) Ltd $0.05 (£3.05)	270−8
Nimslo Int 0.20 Ord ($4.25a)	177+22
Owners Abroad 10p Ord (10a)	17½
Peek Holings 7p Ord	11
Saxon Oil 50p Ord (12½p paid)	53+2
Speyhawk 10p Ord (115)	120
Television South 10p Ord NV (ak)	33
Do 14/20% 1988-88 Ln (ak)	£89
Treasury 9% 1987	£94¼
Treasury 2½% Index Linked 2011 (71)	£35½+¼

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Davy Corp (149‡)		28 prem+1
Glass Glover (83‡)	Mar 3	61 prem+2
MEPC (188‡)	Mar 22	31 prem−5

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a unlisted securities market. b £10 paid. f fully paid. g £40 paid. h £50 paid. i £35 paid. j £25 paid. k Issued in units of sixteen shares and £5 nominal loan stock at £9 per unit.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) February 4	Market rates (close) February 4	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.8600-1.8720	$1.8690-1.8710	0.15-0.25c disc	0.58-0.68c disc
Montreal	$2.2450-2.2540	$2.2510-2.2520	0.12-0.22c disc	0.55-0.70c disc
Amsterdam	4.78-4.83fl	4.78½-4.80½fl	1¼-1¼c prem	5¼-4¾c prem
Brussels	74.20-74.90f	74.30-74.50f	10-30c disc	55-75c disc
Copenhagen	14.29-14.39k	14.29-14.31k	185-270ore disc	575-710ore disc
Dublin	1.2375-1.2455p	1.2400-1.2420p	30-45p disc	115-130p disc
Frankfurt	4.37-4.41m	4.37¼-4.38¼m	1⅝-1¼pf prem	4½-4¼pf prem
Lisbon	127.25-128.25e	127.70-128.00e	50-165c disc	155-425c disc
Madrid	185.25-188.50p	186.10-186.30p	4-35c disc	70-95c disc
Milan	2342-2351lr	2346½-2348½lr	12-15lr disc	45½-48½lr disc
Oslo	11.02-11.09k	11.02½-11.04½k	80 prem-25ore prem	40 prem-70ore prem
Paris	11.09-11.18f	11.09½-11.10½f	¼-1¼c disc	3¼-4¼c disc
Stockholm	10.65-10.70k	10.65-10.67k	10 prem-30ore disc	330-270ore prem
Tokyo	434-441y	435-438y	295-260y prem	855-835y prem
Vienna	30.65-30.85sch	30.80-30.85sch	13-10gro prem	35-30gro prem
Zurich	3.50-3.55f	3.51-3.52f	2-1½c prem	5½-5c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was down 0.1 at 91.7

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 14½ Low 13

Week Fixed: 14

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	13⅝	2 months	13⁹⁄₁₆
3 months	13⅝	3 months	13⅝

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	13⅝-13⁹⁄₁₆	1 month	14¼
2 months	13⅝-13⁹⁄₁₆	2 months	14¼
3 months	13⅝-13⁹⁄₁₆	3 months	14½
6 months	13⅝-13⅝	6 months	14½

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15½-14½	7 months	14¼-14
2 months	14¾-14⅝	8 months	14¼-14
3 months	14⅝-14½	9 months	14⅝-14⅛
4 months	14¾-14⅝	10 months	14⅝-14⅛
5 months	14⅝-14⅝	11 months	14⅝-14⅛
6 months	14¼-14	12 months	14⅝-14⅛

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	14⅝-14⁹⁄₁₆	6 months	14⁷⁄₁₆-14⁵⁄₁₆
3 months	14⅝-14⁹⁄₁₆	12 months	14⁷⁄₁₆-14⁵⁄₁₆

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14½	3 months	14½
7 days	14½	6 months	14½
1 month	14½	1 year	14½

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 14¼ Close 10

1 week	14⅝-14½	6 months	14⅝-14½
1 month	14⁹⁄₁₆-14⁷⁄₁₆	9 months	14⅝-14½
3 months	14⅝-14½	12 months	14⅝-14½

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 15¼-15 6 months 15¼-15

Finance House Base Rate 15¼%

Other Markets

Australia	1.7000-1.7150
Bahrein	0.7015-0.7045
Finland	8.3560-8.3960
Greece	111.75-113.75
Hongkong	10.9220-10.9628
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.5299-0.5329
Malaysia	4.2795-4.3085
Mexico	49.00-50.50
New Zealand	2.3265-2.3465
Saudi Arabia	6.7655-6.3985
Singapore	3.9015-3.9315
South Africa	1.8195-1.8345

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.5100-1.5130
† Canada	1.2045-1.2048
Netherlands	2.5630-2.5680
Belgium	39.75-39.85
Denmark	7.63-7.65
West Germany	2.3340-2.3360
Portugal	67.30-68.40
Spain	99.30-99.60
Italy	1250-1252
Norway	5.91-5.92
France	5.9450-5.9500
Sweden	5.70-5.72
Japan	232.80-233.20
Austria	16.30-16.40
Switzerland	1.8720-1.8770

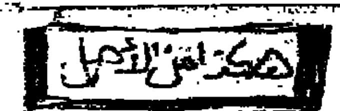
* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8304-0.8306

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 14¼-15¼; seven days, 15¼-15⅛; one month, 15⁷⁄₁₆-15⁹⁄₁₆; three months, 15⅝-15⁹⁄₁₆; six months, 15⅝-15⁹⁄₁₆.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $383.75 (an ounce); pm, $383.75 close, $384.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $385-387 (£212-213).
Sovereigns (new): $93.75-94.75 (£50.50-50.50).



Law Report February 5 1982 House of Lords

Award over frustrated oil deal upheld

BP Exploration Co (Libya) Ltd v Hunt

Before Lord Wilberforce, Lord Diplock, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Scarman and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook

[Speeches delivered February 4]

The House of Lords, in what was said to be the first contested case brought under the Law Reform (Frustrated Contracts) Act 1943, held that where one party to a contract made in 1960 involving an oil concession in Libya, had obtained a valuable benefit from the other party before the contract was frustrated by the political acts of the revolutionary Libyan government in 1971, the party conferring the benefit could apply under section 1(3) of the 1943 Act for recovery from the court and be awarded such sum representing the value of the benefit as the court considered just.

Section 1(3) of the 1943 Act provides: "Where any party to the contract has, by reason of anything done by any other party thereto in, or for the purpose of, the performance of the contract, obtained a valuable benefit ... before the time of discharge, there shall be recoverable from him by the said other party such sum (if any), not exceeding the value of the said benefit to the party obtaining it, as the court considers just..."

By section 2(3): "Where any contract to which this Act applies contains any provision which, upon the true construction of the contract, is intended to have effect in the event of circumstances arising which operate, or would but for the said provision operate, to frustrate the contract, or is intended to have effect whether such circumstances arise or not, the court shall give effect to the said provision and shall only give effect to the foregoing section of this Act to such extent, if any, as appears to the court to be consistent with the said provision".

Mr Robert Alexander, QC, Mr Nicholas Lyell, QC and Mr Peregrin Simon for Mr Hunt; Mr Kenneth Rokison, QC, Mr Iain Milligan and Mr R. G. Wood for BP.

LORD BRANDON said that in May 1975, BP began an action against Mr Nelson Bunker Hunt in the Commercial Court alleging that a contract governed by English law, made between Hunt and BP in 1960 for the sharing on a non-partnership basis of an oil concession granted to Hunt in Libya, had been frustrated as a result of the expropriation by the Libyan government of BP's share in the concession, and claimed against Hunt, inter alia, such sum as the court might consider just under section 1(3) of the 1943 Act.

The contract was governed by English law and the action tried by Mr Justice Robert Goff over 57 days in 1977 and 1978. He gave two reserved judgments ([1979] 1 WLR 783) on the basis of which he made an order for the payment by Hunt to BP of (a) a principal sum of US $10,801,534 under section 1(3) of the 1943 Act, with interest thereon from June 14, 1974 of US $4,774,289; and (b) a further principal sum of £5,666,399, with interest thereon from the same date of £3,060,219.

The Court of Appeal dismissed both Hunt's appeal and BP's cross appeal against the judge's order and refused leave to present a petition of appeal to the House. Leave for Hunt to appeal was, however, given by the appeal committee, no doubt in part at least because this appeared to have been the first contested case under the 1943 Act since it came into force.

The grounds of appeal to the House were limited to two points. The first important one was that having regard to the terms of the contract between the parties and the circumstances surrounding its making, the judge was wrong to order Hunt to pay BP under the 1943 Act any principal sum at all.

The second subsidiary point was whether if the judge was right to order Hunt to pay the principal sums under the 1943 Act, he was wrong to order also the payment of interest on those sums, either at all or in any case from a date as early as June 14, 1974.

The facts relevant to the appeal were that in December 1957, the Libyan government granted Hunt a concession, to explore for oil in, and extract any oil found from, a specified area of the Libyan desert, for a period of 50 years; and drilling for oil was required to be begun within three years.

In June 1960, Hunt, who did not possess the resources and experience necessary to explore and develop the concession himself, concluded what was known in the oil industry as a "farm-in" agreement with BP, who did. It consisted of two documents — "the letter agreement" and "the operating agreement".

The main terms of the contract were, first, that Hunt was to assign to BP, subject to the Libyan government's consent, a half share in his concession.

Second, BP was to explore, develop and operate the whole concession entirely from its own resources and at its own expense.

Third, BP was to make Hunt by July 1, 1960, a farm-in payment of US$2m.

Fourth, BP was to make available to Hunt over four years a quantity of four million barrels of specified Iranian oil.

Fifth, if and when the concession, following BP's exploration and development, produced oil available at a seaboard terminal in commercially worthwhile quantities the operating expenses were thereafter to be shared equally by BP and Hunt.

Sixth, if and when the concession came on stream, BP was to receive thereafter, in the form of three-eighths of the half share of the oil to which Hunt would be entitled, full reimbursement plus 25 per cent, based on the current value of such oil, in respect of the benefits conferred by BP on Hunt under the second, third and fourth terms above.

His Lordship had used the expression "if and when" for the good reason that in 1960 when the farm-in agreement was concluded, it was not and could not have been known with any certainty, either by BP or Hunt, whether the exploration and development of the concession would result in the production of oil in commercially worthwhile quantities. The main risk of failure in the combined adventure was borne by BP and not by Hunt.

The exploration and development of the concession by BP proved extremely successful. BP built a pipeline to carry oil from the concession to the Mediterranean coast near Tobruk and also a sea terminal at which tankers could load the oil so carried.

In June 1967 BP and Hunt agreed certain modifications to the terms of the original farm-in agreement, the result of which, with increase in production of oil, was that Hunt's liability to reimburse BP was always at the rate of 18,750 barrels a day.

On December 7, 1971, the Libyan government, the political complexion of which had been radically changed as the result of a revolution, expropriated BP's half share in what had originally been Hunt's concession.

It appeared that that was done as an act of political retaliation against the British government, and not on account of any complaints against BP itself. By that date BP had received from Hunt, by way of reimbursement in respect of benefits conferred on him by BP prior to the concession coming on stream, 33,101,811 barrels of oil.

On June 11, 1973, the Libyan government expropriated Hunt's half share of the concession also. Between December 7, 1971 when BP's half share was expropriated, and June 11, 1973, when Hunt's half share suffered the same fate, Hunt had obtained 74 million barrels of oil from the concession.

Both BP and Hunt obtained compensation from the Libyan government for the expropriation of their respective shares in the concession, but the amount was unrealistically low in each case.

It was not now in dispute that the farm-in agreement of July 1960, was frustrated by the Libyan government's expropriation of BP's half share in the concession. It followed, since the agreement was governed by English law, that the rights and liabilities of the parties following such frustration depended on the application of the relevant provision and in particular section 1 and section 2(3) of the 1943 Act to the particular circumstances of the case.

The main point for Hunt was that, having regard to the express terms of the contract, and the surrounding circumstances of the making of it, the judge was wrong to order Hunt to pay to BP any principal sums under section 1 of the Act at all.

The argument for Hunt was that on the true construction of the contract, it was the intention of the parties when the contract was made in 1960 that Hunt should be relieved of, and BP saddled with, both the physical risk of failure of the combined adventure, and also with the political risk of failure which in fact materialized, namely, the risk of BP's half share being expropriated by the Libyan government.

There were also legal submissions based on the Act against the order made by the judge and it was said that the intention of the parties with regard to the incidence of risks, whether physical or political, led irresistibly to the conclusion that it would not be just for the court to order the recovery of any sum by the party who had conferred a benefit, namely BP, from the other party who had received such benefit, namely, Hunt.

That argument had a fatal defect in it, namely, that there was nothing in the terms of the contract between the parties, or in the circumstances surrounding the making of it as found by the judge, to indicate, either expressly or by necessary implication, that the parties, when they made the contract in 1960, had in contemplation political risks, such as the expropriation of the concession in whole or in part by the Libyan government which would operate to frustrate the contract, or that, having had such risks in contemplation, they included in the contract any provision which, expressly or by necessary implication, was to take effect in the event of such risks materializing.

His Lordship could not read that clause of the letter agreement, or section of the operating agreement, as giving any such indication so as to bring the case within section 2(3) of the Act, and so as to make it inconsistent with those provisions to order Hunt to make any payment to BP in respect of the benefits received by him from BP prior to the frustration of the contract.

Nor could his Lordship see any good reason why, on the footing that the parties were not shown to have had in contemplation the frustration of the contract by the materialization of the political risks concerned, or to have provided in the contract for the consequences of such frustration, the other circumstances of the case should make it unjust, for the purposes of section 1(2) or (3) of the Act, to make such an order. The first point for Mr Hunt must be rejected.

On the second question whether the judge was right to order the payment of interest on the principal sums awarded under the 1943 Act at all, and if so whether he was right to order such interest to run from a date as early as June 14, 1974, the court's power to order the payment of interest on principal sums was conferred by section 3(1) of the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1934. It was submitted for Hunt that sums recoverable under the 1943 Act were of a very special character indeed, and did not come within the expression "any debt or damages" as used in section 3(1) of the 1934 Act.

His Lordship did not accept that submission. The words "any debt or damages," in their context, were very wide, so that they covered any sum of money recoverable by one party from another, either at common law or in equity or under a statute of the kind here concerned. Accordingly the judge had power to order the payment of interest on the principal sums awarded by him.

As to the date from which interest was ordered to run, the argument for Hunt was that as he could not know the amounts of principal recoverable until they had been assessed by the trial judge, the judge should not have awarded interest from any date earlier than June 20, 1978, the date on which he delivered his first and main judgment.

His Lordship could not accept that either. The date on which BP's cause of action arose was December 7, 1971, when the contract between the parties was frustrated by the expropriation. Under section 3(1) of the 1934 Act, the judge had power to award interest on the principal sums he awarded from any date, from December 7, 1971, onwards, as in the exercise of his judicial discretion he considered just.

The reason why he decided on June 14, 1974, was that on his findings of fact it was on that date that Hunt first became fully aware of BP's intention to bring a claim against him. That was a proper reason.

It was in his Lordship's view clear that there could not be any general rule that, whenever the amount of any debt or damages payable by one party to an action to the other could not be ascertained until judgment was given, the court should never, in the exercise of its discretion, award interest from a date earlier than the date of such judgment.

To apply such a rule would be plainly inconsistent with the express terms of section 3(1) and in many cases, for instance in the case of a claim in a quantum meruit, work serious injustice on a successful plaintiff. On that point too the case for Hunt failed.

Lord Wilberforce, Lord Diplock, Lord Keith and Lord Scarman agreed.

Solicitors: Theodore Goddard & Co; Linklaters & Paines.

Repeated offences can be different

Regina v Board of Visitors Dartmoor Prison, Ex parte Seray-Wurie

Before Mr Justice Forbes

[Judgment delivered February 4]

In considering whether a prisoner had committed repeated offences against prison discipline it did not have to be shown that he had repeated the same offence. It was sufficient that he was a persistent offender who had committed a variety of offences, Mr Justice Forbes held when refusing an application for judicial review by way of certiorari to quash a decision of the Board of Visitors of Dartmoor Prison made on August 24, 1981 on the ground, inter alia, at it had no power to adjudicate the offence charged.

The applicant in person; Mr Christopher Symons for the board of visitors.

MR JUSTICE FORBES said that at the time he was charged, the applicant was serving a four-year sentence for drug offences. His prison performance was appalling and he had managed to collect 249 days loss of remission for a variety of offences.

Following a scuffle on August 17, 1981, the applicant was charged with assaulting a fellow prisoner. The matter came before the prison governor who referred it to the board of visitors under rule 51(2) of the Prison Rules (SI 1964 No 388) which stated that where a prisoner was charged with any "serious or repeated offences against discipline" for which the governor's powers of punishment seemed insufficient, the governor could refer the charge to the board of visitors.

The applicant contended that the offence with which he was charged was neither serious nor repeated in that he had never been convicted of an offence of assault, and accordingly the governor had acted *ultra vires* in referring it to the board of visitors.

However, the point of the rule was that there might come a time when the governor regarded his powers of punishment inadequate. That could be because the offence was a serious one or because the prison record of the prisoner showed that he had committed repeated offences against prison discipline and the time had come for a more sharp punishment.

Although the applicant had never been convicted of an offence involving assault, the governor took the view that a prisoner with 249 days loss of remission was one of the cases where his powers of punishment were insufficient. It could not be said that the governor was acting unfairly and the application was dismissed.

Solicitor: Treasury Solicitor.

When judicial review is better than writ

Irlam Brick Co Ltd v Warrington Borough Council

Before Mr Justice Woolf

[Judgment delivered February 3]

When declarations were sought against the conduct of a public body, so that persons beyond the immediate parties were affected, proceedings should be brought by way of judicial review under Order 53 of the Rules of the Supreme Court rather than by writ, Mr Justice Woolf said in the Queen's Bench Division. His Lordship refused to grant declarations sought by the plaintiffs, the Irlam Brick Co Ltd, against the defendants, Warrington Borough Council, that planning notices were invalid and said that in construing planning conditions the whole document, including the reasons for those conditions, had to be examined.

Sir Derek Walker-Smith, QC and Mr A. J. C. Hogget for the plaintiffs; Mr Nigel MacLeod, QC, and Mr C. Lockhart-Mummery for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE WOOLF said that the Irlam Brick Co, who had proceeded by writ, were seeking declarations relating to planning permission granted by the predecessors of Warrington Borough Council and to notices served by the council.

His Lordship said that simply because a dispute of fact was involved did not mean that the Order 53 procedure was not suitable. There were safeguards whereby the court could order discovery or cross-examination if it was in the interests of justice to do so.

The Order 53 procedure led to more judicious disposal of the case, it saved costs, and it had the safeguard that from the time of the application for leave to bring the proceedings until their conclusion, they were under the supervision of a judge.

In this case, the plaintiff contended that the actions of the council which were purportedly under a condition contained in planning permission granted on February 5, 1948 for the excavation of clay, were unlawful by reason either that the condition was invalid, or that it had been misinterpreted by the council.

The condition required that the plaintiff made the workings available as a tip when the extraction of clay had ceased, that such working be filled in within a reasonable time, and reserved to the planning authority the right to reconsider their approval if reinstatement had not occurred within 10 years of the working having ceased.

In 1964 the last clay was extracted from the land in question. In 1977 a survey pursuant to the preparation of the local plan identified the land as having an ecological significance and as being worthy of conservation for recreational purposes. The plan was later adopted and became operative.

By notices of October 11, 1977 and March 6, 1978, purportedly pursuant to the condition referred to, the council gave notice to the company that further tipping on certain areas of the land was no longer permitted. It was agreed the plaintiff had ceased working more than 10 years previously.

His Lordship held that the council was entitled to serve such a notice. The condition was intended to permit the council to prevent further tipping, and that did not derogate from rights under permission previously granted without compensation.

In construing such a condition, one must have regard to the document granting the permission as a whole, and that extended also to the reasons for such conditions which the planning authority were required by statute to state. They could be looked at as an aid to construction, but that did not elevate them to conditions themselves, whose purpose they merely indicated.

That rule was of general application and did not apply only where there was an ambiguity in any specific condition, which was not the case here. It was clear that the council's purpose in imposing the condition was to ensure that the holes created by the extraction were filled in as early as was practical. Further they wished to reserve to themselves the right to reconsider the matter of restoration of the land after a substantial time, and to take such action as they deemed appropriate.

Solicitors: Ashurst Morris Crisp & Co for Halliwell Landau & Co, Manchester; Sharpe, Pritchard & Co for Mr H. G. Cartwright, Warrington.

Applications to be prompt

Boyle and Others v Gooch and Another

Mr Justice Walton pointed out in the Chancery Division on February 4 that applications must be made promptly after a chancery master's order has been perfected.

HIS LORDSHIP, on hearing a motion by the plaintiff for an order to set aside the order of Master Heward of October 6, 1981 that the costs of the plaintiffs and defendents should come out of the estate of the deceased and in due course of administration, and that, in lieu, the defendants should pay all costs, drew the attention of counsel to paragraph 20/11/4 "Orders in Chambers" being a note to Order 20 rule 11 "Amendment of judgment and orders" of the Rules of the Supreme Court. The normal time for the application was 14 days. Accordingly his Lordship dismissed the motion with costs.

Cricket

Indian tour exposes England's frailty for Australia next winter

From Richard Streeton
Kanpur, Feb 4

The saddest fact about England's unrewarding visit to India during the past three months has been that so many problems still need to be resolved before next winter's Australian tour.

Seven or eight of Fletcher's side could have no part to play in defending the Ashes. England's bowling is a particular worry. This aspect far transcends the 1—0 defeat by India in the Test series, disappointing though this was.

England failed in the Test series because of one abject batting performance that cost them the first Test match in Bombay. Those two fatal hours that England's second innings lasted set the tone for the rest of the tour. India then sat on their lead for the remaining five matches, which was not too hard to do on over-prepared pitches which left the bowlers innocuous.

Remembering, also, the lamentable over rates that barely reached 13 an hour, it is possible that this may be ranked the dullest series since the administrators, in their capacity for profit, decreed that six Tests rather than five should become the norm.

Fortunately, there were several moments of good cricket during the first four days of each successive draw and the matches were not quite as dreadful to watch as they must have been to follow at long range.

None of this, however, should disguise the harsh reality that India proved themselves the better team. In their last four home series since 1978-79, India have now beaten West Indies, Australia, Pakistan and England. They still lack a truly fast bowler, but otherwise are remarkably well-equipped in all facets—batting down to No 10 not the least of them.

Meanwhile, it is a moot point whether England would have been better served on this tour in several cases by younger players. There were several players in India this winter whose best achievements lay behind them rather than ahead.

It was predictable that Fletcher, recalled after a five-year gap, should lean towards experience. However, there is much less time for the considerable rebuilding that has to be done this summer by Peter May, the new chairman of selectors, and his colleagues.

In the absence of contenders from the younger school, Fletcher was a sound choice for the captaincy and he certainly deserves to retain the post for the first half of the coming summer. He may yet take England to Australia, but in the continued absence of England captaincy material among the county captains, England must think seriously about grooming one of the established England players for the role. If this were done, I think Gooch would be the front runner. Were Barclay or Cook to justify a place in the England team it might be a different matter.



Kapil Dev : Hundred in 81 balls.

Fletcher's own form and close fielding in front of the wicket could not be criticized and he handled the side ably in the field; he might have been a shade more assertive off it. It was also a pity that Fletcher seemed less able than most to accept the sundry umpiring disappointments the team encountered. The main criticism that could be made of Fletcher was that he tended to hold to preconceived notions too long and that at times he was too cautious. It was a trait reflected by the sides packed with batting that England often chose, his reluctance to use his slow bowlers, and once or twice in the timing of declarations.

Fletcher's original beliefs that speed and seam would decide the series were proved wrong, partly due to the lifeless pitches and partly because those chosen to do the work were not good enough at this stage of their careers. Willis ran in with all his old frenzied determination, but he bowled too many balls that could be left alone. Lever only rarely could find his ability to bring the ball back into the batsmen.

There must now be doubts after this tour whether Dilley is going to develop. Allott usually bowled the best line but his assets were only belatedly recognized by the tour selectors. Also he was unfortunate with dropped catches at Madras and he missed the last Test because of sickness. Underwood could not always contain batsmen on perfect wickets with his old mastery and Emburey's contribution was less significant than had been hoped.

Among the batsmen, Gooch overcame a wretched start and played some telling innings, and Tavaré more than continued the promising start he made against Australia. It will be interesting to see if Tavaré is asked by England to continue as an opening batsman. Gooch and Tavaré have all the necessary contrast as an opening pair and with Allan Lamb now qualified for England, there are almost too many candidates for Englands No 3, 4 and 5 positions.

Gower dutifully got his head down through a really sizable score eluded him. Gatting had a successful tour in every respect, and his figures on the big occasions fail to reflect the circumstances in which he usually batted. Cook began the tour well but the itinerary allowed him few chances later. England were also well served by the wicketkeepers.

Only Botham remains to be mentioned. The extent to which England continue to rely on his efforts with both bat and ball was almost frightening. His commitment and capacity for hard work were never missing. As a batsman he has donned a new cloak of responsibility and returns home an even better player than when he left.

Finally, a word about umpiring. I believe England were wrong to make an issue about the umpiring standards. There was a suspicion of arrogance and some England players failed to acknowledge the extent India had often outplayed them. Their attitude to the umpiring did not take cognisance that officials if erratic, were certainly not biased.

Something to savour for vultures and Kapil

From Richard Streeton
Kanpur, Feb 4

A century by Kapil Dev in 81 balls, one of the half dozen or so fastest in Test match history, made the final day of the sixth Test eminently more watchable here than was expected. There was, of course, no pressure on Kapil Dev but England rightly paid him the respect of bowling and fielding with full commitment.

It was an innings marked by marvellous power and clean striking of the ball and could also be regarded as a final, celebratory salvo as India's 1—0 victory was inked over in the record books. It was first entered in pencil last December in Bombay and has been inevitable ever since.

A full house, of some 50,000, was present to enjoy the closing rites as England were officially baulked of success in a Test rubber for the fourth time in their last five tours to this country. For a man who never misses the chance to stress that he is a bowler and that batting merely goes with the job, Kapil Dev punished everything with a certainty and freedom from error that was remarkable.

He reached 100 with a six and 14 fours and did not give a chance.

Morning fog prevented play before lunch and swelled the total time lost in this game to almost 10 hours. When play did start, aggressive bowling by Willis ensured that the cricket was not as dead as it might have seemed to a flock of vultures hovering not far above

England had a new ball straightaway—though it only lasted five overs before having to be changed for another—and Willis, typically, put his heart and soul into its use. Viswanath square-cut the day's first ball for four, gave cover point a catch from the third, attempting the same stroke; then Malhotra was leg-before to the sixth. When Willis had Shastri caught behind, his first 21 balls had brought him three for seven.

But Yashpal Sharma, who stayed in all for three hours, was not to be moved and Kapil Dev, having shaken off the effects of a blow on the left elbow from Willis, soon began to hit forcefully.

ENGLAND: First Innings: 378 for nine declared (I T Botham 142, D I Gower 85, G A Gooch 58; D R Doshi 4 for 81).

INDIA: First Innings

S M Gavaskar, run out	52
P Roy, b Botham	5
D B Vengsarkar, c Fletcher, b Dilley	46
G R Viswanath, c Gower, b Willis	74
Yashpal Sharma, not out	55
A Malhotra, l-b-w, b Willis	0
R Shastri, c Taylor, b Willis	2
Kapil Dev, c Dilley, b Gower	116
S M Kirmani, not out	1
Extras (w 2, n-b 16, l-b 7, b 1)	26
Total (7 wkts dec)	377

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—12, 2—79, 3—186, 4—197, 5—197, 6—207, 7—376.

BOWLING: Willis, 23—5—75—3; Botham, 25—6—67—1; Dilley, 14—2—67—1; Underwood, 25—8—55—0; Emburey, 32—7—81—0; Fletcher, 2—1—5—0; Gower, 1—0—1—1.

Umpires: M V Gothoskar and D Dotiwalla.

Cautious Australian selectors belie a myth

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Adelaide, Feb 4

Never believe it when you are told that Australia's cricket selectors are the most progressive in the business. For some years now they have shown a marked reluctance to blood new players. There was further evidence of this here today when they announced the 13 who will be going to New Zealand next Wednesday to play three Test matches, three one-day internationals and five other games.

Where they had the chance of choosing a young batsman such as Ritchie of Queensland or Boon of Tasmania they have stayed with Dyson; where they might have picked Sleep, a 24-year-old South Australian all-rounder, they have brought back Bright, who has seldom failed, when given the chance, to show that he is not a genuine Test cricketer. When faced with a straight choice between Pascoe, who is 31, and Lawson, who is 24, they have gone for Pascoe.

Those wounded in the Test match which finished yesterday —Chappell (cracked finger), Hughes (broken toe) and Lillee (strained groin) are all included, though Lillee is to have a medical tomorrow. As the Australian board said he would a week ago when stifling speculation Chappell retains the captaincy. Hughes continues as vice-captain ahead of Marsh. Alderman, out of action for the last month with torn ligaments in a foot, is back. When Marsh needs a break Dyson will keep wicket.

Australia's century-maker at The Oval last summer, the 22-year-old Dirk Wellham, has been dropped even from the New South Wales team. Of the 13 chosen, seven are over 31, including four of the bowlers. For what it matters any more, seven of the 13 were with World Series Cricket.

SQUAD: G Chappell (captain), K Hughes (vice-captain), T Alderman, A Border, R Bright, J Dyson, B Laird, D Lillee, R Marsh, L Pascoe, J Thomson, G Wood, B Yardley.

ITINERARY: Feb 13, One-day international (Auckland); Feb 14, Northern districts (Hamilton); Feb 17, One-day international (Dunedin); Feb 20, One-day international (Wellington); Feb 22-24, North Island (Napier); Feb 26-March 2, First Test (Wellington); March 4, Nelson-Marlborough (Nelson); March 6-8, President's XI (Christchurch); March 9, Central districts (New Plymouth); March 12-16, Second Test (Auckland); March 19-23, Third Test (Christchurch).

Australian batting

	M	Inns	NO	Runs	HS	Avge
A R Border	3	6	1	336	126	67.20
J Dyson	2	4	1	166	127*	55.33
K J Hughes	3	6	1	226	100*	45.20
B M Laird	3	6	0	200	78	33.33
G M Wood	3	6	1	130	63	26.00
R W Marsh	3	5	0	117	39	23.40
B Yardley	3	5	0	93	45	18.60
G S Chappell	3	6	0	86	61	14.33
J R Thomson	2	3	1	26	18*	13.00
T M Alderman	2	3	0	11	10	3.67
D K Lillee	3	5	0	8	4	1.60

ALSO BATTED: G F Lawson, 2, 0*; L S Pascoe, 10, 0*; D MacD Wellham, 13, 2.

Bowling

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge
D K Lillee	121.3	26	317	16	19.81
B Yardley	142.5	28	446	20	22.30
J R Thomson	83.1	9	317	9	35.22
T M Alderman	69	17	196	5	39.20
L S Pascoe	52	5	178	4	44.50

ALSO BOWLED: G F Lawson, 26—5—64—1; A R Border, 8—1—19—0; G S Chappell, 2—2—0—0.

West Indies batting

	M	Inns	NO	Runs	HS	Avge
H A Gomes	3	6	1	393	126	78.60
C H Lloyd	3	6	1	275	77*	55.00
P J Dujon	3	6	1	227	51	45.40
C G Greenidge	2	4	0	134	66	33.50
I V A Richards	3	6	0	160	50	26.67
A M E Roberts	2	3	0	70	42	23.33
D L Haynes	3	6	0	125	51	20.83
D A Murray	2	4	1	56	32*	18.67
S F A Bacchus	2	4	0	28	27	7.00
M A Holding	3	5	1	26	9	6.50
J Garner	3	5	0	20	12	4.00
C E H Croft	3	5	2	4	4*	1.33

ALSO BATTED: S T Clarke, 15, 4.

Bowling

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge
M A Holding	140.3	37	344	24	14.33
J Garner	122	37	275	12	22.92
H A Gomes	45	12	87	3	29.00
A M E Roberts	76	22	178	6	29.67
C E H Croft	138.1	25	361	7	51.57

ALSO BOWLED: S T Clarke, 32—13—76—1; I V A Richards, 49—13—109—0.

West Indian yearning

Sydney, Feb 4.—The West Indian cricketers want to return to Australia before the planned 1987 tour, Steve Camacho, their manager, said today. The West Indies retained the Sir Frank Worrell trophy with a thrilling five-wicket win against Australia in the third Test in Adelaide on Wednesday to tie the series 1—1.

Clive Lloyd, the captain, who is now 37 and a veteran of 85 Tests, would almost certainly have been making his last Australian appearance under the present tour schedule.

One of the most senior players in the game, Lloyd has been prematurely retired by critics in the past but refuses to be pensioned off. After the West Indies' triumph in the one-day cup in Sydney last week, Mr Camacho said: "He is batting with all his old skill—why ask him to stand down when he is getting runs and directing wins?"

Vivian Richards, the vice-captain and the heir apparent to Lloyd, was not at his best on tour, but Mr Camacho said: "By his high standards he admits he did not go well, but he is a perfectionist." Richards, who is 29, scored 436 runs on the tour at an average of 43.60.

Australia lead in youth series

Devonport, Australia.—By beating Pakistan by 66 runs Australia took a 1—0 lead in an under-19 international series in Tasmania. The teams are playing two limited-over matches of 50 overs a side.

SCORES: Australia 196 (C Bradley 65) in 50 overs. Pakistan 130 in 39.1 overs.

Knight captain again

Roger Knight has been reelected captain of Surrey County Cricket Club for the 1982 season. This will be his fifth season in charge

England in final with Australia

Christchurch, Feb 4.—England and Australia, the defending champions, who will met in the final of the women's World Cup on Sunday, both recorded victories as the qualifying matches continued here today.

ENGLAND: 242 for 4 (S Goatman 85, R Flint 61 not out), 60 overs. International XI: 129 for 7 (L Thomas 56), 60 overs.

AUSTRALIA: 193 for 5 (J Kennare 69, S Tredrea 55 not out), 60 overs. India: 154 for 7 (A Gurjar 47).

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Australia	11	10	1	0	42
England	12	7	2	3	32
New Zealand	11	6	1	4	26
India	11	3	0	8	12
International XI	11	0	0	11	0

—Agencies.

Fencing

International honours not beyond our imagination

By Hilary Cawthorne

The start of the international season sees the sport in Britain in healthy shape. Standards at club and national level have improved, and international honours are not beyond the bounds of imagination.

Each of the four weapons—men's foil, ladies' foil, epée and sabre (the last two for men only)—has chosen a training squad from which the national teams will be selected next June: three at each weapon for the Commonwealth championships in Barnstaple, and five at each weapon for the world championships in Rome.

Linda Martin will be defending her title this weekend at the de Beaumont competition in London, when her strongest opposition will come from the French. Also competing will be Liz Thurley, the British champion, and the up and coming Fiona McIntosh and Kim Cecil, who both gained their international colours last season. British placings in this even will be considered when selecting the squads for forthcoming international events in Goppingen, Turin, Paris and Como.

Leading the men foilists at the Leon Paul home international, to be held next weekend in London, will be the one-handed Rob Bruniges.

Close behind will be Pierre Harper, and Nick Bell, who work and train in Paris and will also be competing for a place in the British team. Further international events this season will take place in Paris, Bonn and Venice.

The epée team, the best placed of our four squads in the world rankings, will shortly be off to Paris, Legnano, Berne and Heidenheim, as well as competing in Britain's only A grade event, the Martini competition in London.

All eyes will be on Steve Paul, in the hope that he will be able to retain his title in the face of strong opposition. Neil Mallett and Steve Roose, fresh from their success in the A grade Budapest event last month, are also expected to do well.

At sabre, the only weapon not controlled by electronics, (although this is likely to change in the near future) the squad will be travelling to Budapest, Hanover, Padua, New York and possibly Warsaw.

Always a difficult weapon to succeed with because of scoring difficulties, it is hoped to see some good international results this season from Jim Philbin, British Sabre champion, Mark Slade and Richard Cohen.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	175	300	Good	Crust	Good	Cloud	3
Good skiing on all slopes							
Arosa	180	230	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-5
Powder on good base							
Courmayeur	130	260	Good	Crust	Fair	Cloud	-3
Icy on lower slopes							
Grindelwald	30	120	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	3
Good snow in all areas							
Isola 2000	145	185	Fair	Varied	Fair	Fair	-2
More snow needed							
Klosters	150	230	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	6
Powder on north-facing slopes							
La Plagne	175	325	Fair	Crust	Icy	Snow	1
Best skiing above 2,000m							
Sauze d'Oulx	30	70	Fair	Varied	Worn	Cloud	2
Good skiing on high pistes							
St Anton	260	480	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	0
Excellent skiing everywhere							
Seefeld	150	205	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-2
Excellent skiing conditions							
Tignes	240	300	Good	Varied	Good	Snow	-2
Snow starting to fall							
Zermatt	80	—	Good	Varied	Fair	Cloud	0
Upper slopes still good							

In the above reports, supplied by the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from tourist boards:

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
SWITZERLAND					
Adelboden	10	120	Pwdr	Good	-5
Braunwald	180	230	Hard	Good	-2
Champery	10	180	Pwdr	Good	0
Chateau d'Oex	10	120	Pwdr	Good	-4
Davos	170	290	Pwdr	Good	-14
Disentis	130	250	Pwdr	Good	-6
Engelberg	40	180	Pwdr	Good	-5
Gstaad	60	120	Slush	Good	-8
Kandersteg	40	180	Hard	Good	0
Lenk	30	160	Pwdr	Good	-11
Lenzerheide	150	310	Pwdr	Good	-10
Murren	130	180	Pwdr	Good	-1
Pontresina	70	130	Pwdr	Good	-18
Saas-Fee	80	160	Pwdr	Good	-6
St Cergue	50	100	Hard	Good	1
St Moritz	80	140	Pwdr	Good	-20
Savognin	60	180	Pwdr	Good	-9
Verbier	80	250	Pwdr	Good	-4
Villars	10	150	Hard	Good	-2
Wengen	40	150	Pwdr	Good	-1
FRANCE					
Avoriaz	60	300			
Alpe d'Huez	180	390			
Chamonix	80	450			
Courchevel	70	240			
Flaine	140	460			
La Clusaz	70	265			
Les Deux Alpes	100	300			
Les Gets	90	210			
Les Menuires	124	200			
Megève	65	215			
Méribel	90	220			
Montgenèvre	100	160			
Pra-Loup	115	167			
St Gervais	100	370			
Superdévoluy	15	140			
Tignes	190	[illegible]			
GERMANY					
Berchtesgaden	40	120	Pwdr	—	-3
Garmisch	60	160	Old	—	-3
Hindelang	100	210	Pwdr	—	-3
Kleinwalsertal	150	300	Pwdr	—	-5
Mittenwald	50	100	Old	—	-5
Oberammergau	60	130	Pwdr	—	-3
Oberstdorf	80	210	Pwdr	—	-1

Rugby Union

England call on Bond to face Irish once again

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

England's preparations for the Irish international at Twickenham tomorrow, already set back by Bill Beaumont's absence, suffered another disappointment yesterday when Paul Dodge withdrew from the side with a pulled hamstring sustained while he was training with the national squad at St Mary's College, Strawberry Hill.

The Lancashire centre, Tony Bond, was at once summoned to with Clive Woodward in the centre join the party and will link up to win his sixth cap. It will be almost two years to the day since he won his last, against the same opposition on the same ground, and was carried off on a stretcher with a broken leg. Dodge's injury is a recurrence of the one that kept him out of the Midlands XV against the Wallabies in October.

A decision whether Peter Wheeler will be fit to play has been deferred until this morning. England's hooker had a recurrence of an old back injury when training with the England squad at Stourbridge last Monday, and was in considerable pain the following day when he gave himself only a 50-50 chance of playing. But his cause looked much more hopeful yesterday when he took part in all the training activities except serious scrummaging.

Andy Simpson, England's number two hooker this season and last, would seem the logical choice for a first cap if wheeler cannot play. The Gloucester hooker and captain, Steve Mills, won two caps in Argentina last summer, and was added to the squad yesterday.

It seemed that Bond's grievous injury at Twickenham in 1980, might end his rugby career. But this popular, immensely determined character, had other ideas, and he now has the reward for the pain, the frustration, and the waiting. He won his first cap against New Zealand in 1978.

England had plans for Dodge, with his left foot, to kick at goal from the right-hand side of the posts, Huw Davies from the left, and Marcus Rose from the longest ranges. They now have to decide whether to give Davies all the shorter ones, or use Clive Woodward, another left-footed kicker, on one side.

Although he is wedded to a fluid, expansive game, the England coach, Mike Davis, admits that the return of Phil Blakeway and John Scott, the replacement of Beaumont by Jim Syddall and that of Dodge by Bond implies a settling-in period for Smith's side: "We've got to blend some front characters together again. We've had some setbacks, and we must make sure we get early, firm control. It's more than ever important against the Irish."

Davis said that Scott was happy to accept the challenge of pack leadership: "I accept that he has only played two matches, but he's such a competitive animal—he'll play his normal Saturday game."

Of Bond's return, he said: "People think of Tony as a crash banger who will give confidence to everybody around him. He's not as fluent a player as Dodge, but he fits very nicely into his county's expansive game."



Michael Sullivan

Joker at work: England's new captain, Smith, puts a smile on the face of the new cap, Syddall (right) at squad training yesterday. Winterbottom and Blakeway share the joke.

Nature takes its course and Davies takes field

Welsh fears that their captain, Gareth Davies, would not be fit to face France at Cardiff tomorrow, were allayed yesterday. Davies, aged 25, who badly bruised a thigh in the 22-12 defeat by Ireland last month, was able to train fully for the first time at Bridgend, and afterwards was declared fit.

Davies said: "I felt very down on Monday when I couldn't take part in the squad session, but I've been swimming and having massage every day this week and mother nature seems to have done the trick."

Training yesterday included a full-scale match. On two occasions Davies switched to the junior side for a short period to allow Malcolm Dacey, the stand-off, to team up with the scrum half, Terry Holmes. Dacey, the Swansea utility back, would probably have won his first cap if Davies had been ruled out.

Davies added: "I hope there is a backlash from the Irish game. I shouldn't need to say much to the other players—everybody knows they didn't play particularly well."

The Ireland left wing, Moss Finn, is fit to play against England at Twickenham. He passed a stiff fitness test, watched by the chairman of selectors, Kevin Flynn, and the team coach, Tom Kiernan, in Dublin yesterday.

Finn said: "Naturally I am delighted. I was always a little worried that something might go wrong, although I had two training sessions during the week." Ireland will have another light training session today at St Paul's School, Hammersmith.

Skiing

Canadian downhillers on the up

From Dudley Doust
Schladming, Feb 4

All season the Canadian team has felt that Gerry Sorensen, a sturdy British Columbian, was the fastest girl on two skis but their coach, Currie Chapman, was slightly uneasy this morning when he inspected the women's downhill course at the Alpine world ski championships. The snow was too smooth, he thought, too slow, too many gliders' skiers might be in with a chance.

"She's as straight as you can," he told Miss Sorensen and the other three Canadian downhillers. "You're going to have to squeeze the speed out of this track."

Miss Sorensen duly squeezed it out, sweeping down the course of almost two miles in 1 min 37.47 sec to win the gold medal comfortably from Cindy Nelson, the veteran American. Another Canadian, Laurie Graham, finished third and yet another, Dianne Lehodey, fifth. A Norwegian, Torill Fjeldstad, came fourth to obliterate the Alpine girls in an event they have dominated for years.

Miss Sorensen gets the job done. She does not ski beautifully. For instance, she does not tuck into a downhiller's tight classical ball, preferring a "high tuck". Today her arms spread wide, as in awe, when she flew the noted dirtier bump.

To Chapman, she looked fine. "Gerry just stays high and lumbers along", he said. "You know, to win you don't have to be the smallest little ball in the world."

For Austria, who are still to win a medal on their home ground in this championship, it was a bitterly disappointing race. Their best finisher was Elisabeth Kirchler, who came sixth, and their best hope, Cornelia Pröll, sister of the great Annemarie Moser-Pröll, finished 18th and in a flood of tears.

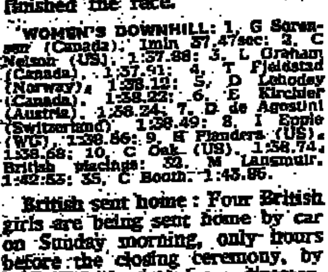
The Austrians, licking their wounded pride, half heartedly wondered if the Canadians had some waxing secret. It was not the wax. It was not the skis either, although Miss Sorensen's were perfectly chosen and prepared for the conditions and weather: hard snow, bright sunshine and temperatures at minus 5°C.

She has eight pairs of racing skis and her "waxer", a French-Canadian named Martin Geoffroy, explained that the ones she wore today were 10 lengths faster than any of the other seven tried on a 12-second test run. Only a fortnight ago, she had used them all down an alpine test run.

The Canadian downhill women, like their men, are now a world force. Miss Sorensen is 23, the daughter of a hamburger tycoon who walks round the rocky mountain town of Kimberley wearing a T-shirt that reads, "I'm Gerry Sorensen's father". In only her second year in the national side, she won her first world cup downhill race last season at Schladming.

The circumstances were marvellous. She started so far back in the pack that day, in 30th spot, that the organizers reckoned the race was over even before she pushed off. The three leaders were gathered on the winners' podium, being photographed and presented their awards when whoosh, Miss Sorensen had smashed past the finish to victory.

It was this remarkable triumph that made the Canadian girl anxious today. She refused to grant triumphant interviews to the television or press until nearly the entire field had finished the race.



WOMEN'S DOWNHILL: 1, G Sorensen (Canada), 1min 37.47sec; 2, C Nelson (US), 1:37.88; 3, L Graham (Canada), 1:37.91; 4, T Fjeldstad (Norway), 1:38.10; 5, D Lehodey (Canada), 1:38.22; 6, E Kirchler (Austria), 1:38.24; 7, D de Agostini (Switzerland), 1:38.49; 8, I Epple (WG), 1:38.56; 9, H Flanders (US), 1:38.68; 10, C Oak (US), 1:38.74. British placings: 32, M Langmuir, 1:42.55; 35, C Booth, 1:43.86.

British sent home: Four British girls are being sent home by car on Sunday morning, only hours before the closing ceremony, by the British Alpine director, Fraser Clyde, who has been "disappointed by their enthusiasm and morale". The final straw, in Mr Clyde's view, was the downhill performance today when the two British skiers might have clipped at least 1.5 seconds off their runs. Mr Clyde emphasized that the girls, Moira Langmuir, Clare Booth, Felicity Blyth and Lesley Beck, would be brought back to the Continent in March for another chance to show their mettle in international competition.

Ice skating

Figures fail to add up for Britain

From John Hennessey
Lyons, Feb 4

Deborah Cottrill, the British figure-skating champion, was third in the compulsory figures section of the European championships here today. This was a disappointment, for she had held second place to Claudia Kristofics-Binder, of Austria, after the second figure.

A moderate set of loops by Miss Cottrill allowed Kristina Wegelius, of Finland, to slip through into second place. This is a reversal of the British and Finnish placings last year. Since each position in the figures section is worth six tenths of a point in the final computation, Miss Cottrill has surrendered 1.2 points to Miss Kristofics-Binder, who finished third in last year's world championship.

More significantly perhaps, the British champion's lead over the favourite, Katarina Witt, of East Germany, has been narrowed to 1.8, which represents only two placings in Saturday's free skating, regardless of what may happen in tomorrow's short programme.

Karen Wood, Britain's second competitor, was twelfth. Even allowing for her known fallibility in the figures, this too was a disappointment.

Yet a third setback was the discovery this morning that the second British dance couple, Karen Barber and Nicholas Slater, had finished fifth rather than fourth in the compulsory section. Somebody had omitted to feed the results of the third dance into the computer system.

The mistake had the further effect of requiring a new draw for tomorrow night's free dance, with the result that Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, champions of Britain, Europe and the world, now skate last of all rather than first of the final group, with four couples to follow. This should confer a tactical advantage, but the British team prefer it otherwise.

The final of the pairs last night evoked a pang of yearning for the days of Irina Rodnina and, before them, the Protopopovs. Their Russian compatriots, Irina Vorobieva and Igor Lisovski, suffered a series of embarrassing setbacks and surrendered their title comprehensively to Sabina Baess and Tassilo Thierbach, of East Germany, with another Russian pair intervening.

WOMEN'S COMPULSORY FIGURES: 1, C Kristofics-Binder (Austria), 0.6 placements; 2, K Wegelius (Finland), 1.2; 3, D Cottrill (GB), 1.8; 4, E Vodorezova (USSR), 2.4; 5, S Dubravcic (Yugoslavia), 3.0; 6, K Witt (EG), 3.6. Other British placing: 12, K Wirth (GB), 7.2.

ICE DANCE COMPULSORIES: 1, Miss J Torvill and C Dean (GB), 9 place marks, 1.0; 2, Miss N Bestemianova and A Bukin (USSR), 18, 2.0; 3, Miss I Moiseyeva and A Minenkov (USSR), 28, 3.0; 4, Miss K Barber and N Slater (GB), 39, 4.0; 5, Miss O Voloshinskaya and A Svinin (USSR), 43, 5.0; 6, Miss N Herve and P Bechu (France), 53, 6.0. Other British: 9, Miss W Session and S Williams, 78, 9.0.

Football

Enfield hope Merthyr fans will be watching the rugby

By Paul Newman

Enfield, one of non-League football's most successful clubs, are hoping this season to fill the most glaring gap in their trophy cupboard. The north London club, who have recently built a reputation as FA Cup giant-killers, twice won the old Amateur Cup but have never gone beyond the semi-finals of the competition which succeeded it, the FA Trophy.

Tomorrow they travel to Merthyr Tydfil in the second round, beyond which they have progressed once in the last five seasons. Merthyr occupy only a mid-table position in the midland division of the Southern League, but their opponents, second in the Alliance Premier League, are taking no chances.

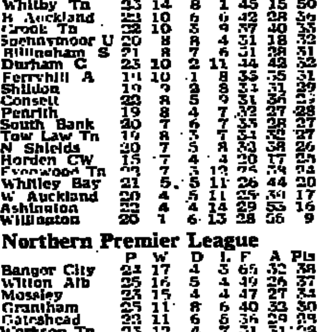
Eddie McCluskey, Enfield's manager, said yesterday: "We've had Merthyr watched twice and I went to see them myself on Monday, when they drew 0—0 at home to Bridgend. They look as though they could be quite formidable on their own ground. They're quite a skilful side who want to play football, though that suits us. We'll play the way we do in all our games—attack.

"It will be difficult, but we're confident enough. Besides, I'm hoping all Merthy's supporters will be down at Cardiff watching the rugby international!"

Just like the FA Cup, the Trophy has ties that can capture the public's imagination. One such match tomorrow is the visit of Bishop Auckland, once the most famous amateur club in the land, to Chorley, the Cheshire County League leaders. Such is the drawing power of Bishop Auckland's name that up to 2,000 people are expected at Victory Park.

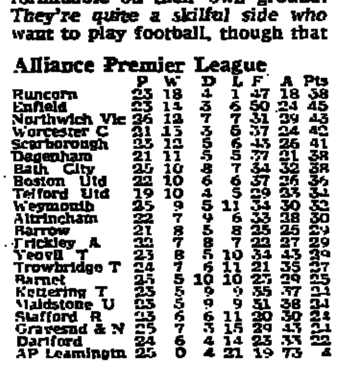






Northern League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blyth S	23	16	3	4	47	18	51
Whitby Tn	23	14	8	1	45	15	50
B Auckland	22	10	6	6	42	28	36
Crook Tn	22	10	5	9	37	40	35
Spennymoor U	20	8	8	4	31	18	32
Billingham S	21	8	7	6	31	28	31
Durham C	23	10	2	11	44	48	32
Ferryhill A	19	10	1	8	35	35	31
Shildon	19	9	2	8	31	31	29
Consett	22	8	5	9	31	36	29
Penrith	19	8	4	7	32	27	28
South Bank	20	7	6	7	33	28	27
Tow Law Tn	19	8	3	8	31	32	27
N Shields	20	7	5	8	32	38	26
Horden CW	15	7	4	4	20	17	25
Evenwood Tn	23	7	3	13	25	39	24
Whitley Bay	21	5	5	11	26	44	20
W Auckland	20	4	5	11	25	36	17
Ashington	22	4	4	14	29	53	16
Willington	20	1	6	13	28	56	9



Alliance Premier League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Runcorn	23	18	4	1	47	18	58
Enfield	23	14	3	6	50	24	45
Northwich Vic	26	12	7	7	31	29	43
Worcester C	21	13	3	5	37	24	42
Scarborough	25	12	5	6	45	26	41
Dagenham	21	11	5	5	37	21	38
Bath City	25	10	8	7	34	32	38
Boston Utd	22	10	6	6	37	26	36
Telford Utd	19	10	4	5	29	23	34
Weymouth	25	9	5	11	34	30	32
Altrincham	22	7	9	6	33	28	30
Barrow	21	8	5	8	25	25	29
Frickley A	22	7	8	7	22	27	29
Yeovil T	23	8	5	10	34	45	29
Trowbridge T	24	7	6	11	21	35	27
Barnet	25	5	10	10	25	29	25
Kettering T	23	5	9	9	35	37	24
Maidstone U	23	5	9	9	31	38	24
Stafford R	23	6	6	11	20	30	24
Gravesnd & N	25	7	3	15	29	43	24
Dartford	24	6	4	14	23	33	22
AP Leamingtn	25	0	4	21	19	73	4

Northern Premier League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bangor City	24	17	4	3	65	32	38
Witton Alb	25	16	5	4	49	26	37
Mossley	23	15	4	4	47	27	34
Grantham	25	11	8	6	40	33	30
Gateshead	23	11	6	6	36	29	28
Worksop Tn	25	12	4	7	31	31	28
King's Lynn	20	11	4	5	37	18	26
Workington	25	11	3	11	40	41	25
Macclesfield	22	10	4	8	37	24	24
Southport	23	8	8	7	36	32	24
Lancaster C	21	8	7	6	18	16	23
Oswestry Tn	25	8	6	11	35	35	22
Marine	22	6	9	7	36	36	21
Buxton	19	8	4	7	25	26	20
S Liverpool	22	6	7	9	28	30	19
Goole Tn	22	6	6	10	29	35	18
Gainsborough	25	6	6	13	31	50	18
Burton Alb	21	6	5	10	26	33	17
Tamworth	21	6	4	11	17	25	16
Netherfield	20	3	5	12	18	35	11
Matlock Tn	23	2	4	17	19	50	8
Morecambe	21	2	3	16	17	60	7

Leeds to show the door to Greenhoff

Brian Greenhoff, Leeds United's £350,000 signing from Manchester United, in 1979, has joined ten other players on the club's transfer list. Greenhoff has been made available along with Paul Hart, Trevor Cherry, Brian Flynn and seven reserves. Allan Clarke, the Leeds manager, has been told by his board that he must sell players to raise more than £1m needed for a striker and a midfield player. Leeds have refused a transfer request from Peter Barnes but are prepared to listen to offers for the England winger, who joined them for £950,000 from West Bromwich Albion at the start of the season.

Hart and Cherry have been on the list for two months while Flynn turned down a move to Stoke City last month after the clubs had agreed a fee of £300,000. Flynn, the Wales midfield player, may return to his home country by joining Swansea City, who have shown an interest.

☐ Wrexham, second division strugglers, have been hit by an injury crisis with six players now doubtful for Saturday's game at Norwich. The latest casualty is Welsh international defender, Joey Jones, who has badly bruised feet. Ian Edwards, Mick Vinter, Steve Buxton, Frank Carrodus and Wayne Cegielski, are already having daily treatment.

☐ Nottingham Forest manager, Brian Clough, still has confidence in £1m striker Justin Fashanu, even though he has scored only three goals in 20 games since his transfer from Norwich. "He is having a lean time, but I know I can get him scoring goals again. It is a matter for the player and myself to sort out," Mr Clough said.

Bristol City to sue former manager over bills

Bristol City, who were saved from liquidation yesterday, are attempting to sue their former manager Bob Houghton over hotel and restaurant bills totalling in excess of £5,000.

Archie Gooch, who has handed over chairmanship of the third division club to Leslie Kew, a 46-year-old builder, said: "We are taking legal action.

For several months after taking over Bristol City in October 1980, Mr Houghton lived with his bride at the Dragonara hotel, Bristol. They claim the club owe them £4,500.

Three young professionals, Jon Economou, 20, and 18-year-olds Wayne Bray and Steve Thompson are set to make their City debuts in midfield at home to the third division leaders, Fulham, tomorrow. Their likely promotion comes in the wake of the Ashton Gate eight whose acceptance of a £100,000 pay-off offer to leave the club, saved it from closure.

Gerry Sweeney, one of the eight, plans to keep himself fit by playing for the Somerset village team, Blackwell United.

The departures and the broken jaw suffered by Terry Boyle in last week's 1—1 draw at Newport left the acting manager, Roy Hodgson, with the task of fielding a fresh central defence, virtually an entirely changed midfield and a new captain.

The first task of the four-man caretaker board, appointed to run the club until the launch of a new £1 million share issue, is to persuade creditors owed more than £500,000 to freeze their debts until then.

City may have been reprieved, but Darlington's struggle goes on. Coffee mornings, jumble sales, a lottery and raffles are being organized in response to the club chairman Leslie Moore's threat that the club will fold in six weeks unless £50,000 is raised.

Darlington are £100,000 in the red; losing £1,000 a week; have £45,000 worth of unpaid bills; are expecting a £5,000 VAT bill any day; and languish 15th in the fourth division.

"The public's response has been terrific, but it is a pity we had to say we were facing closure before they gave us their support," Mr Moore said. "Last season we finished eighth in the division, our best performance for years, with gates averaging 2,500. But this season the average attendance has been only 1,800. Sunderland offered us a game and in the town it now seems that every street and every organization is doing something to help."

But Mr Moore reiterated his warning that the club would collapse in mid-March unless the money was raised.

"We would obviously try to struggle on until the end of the season and then leave the league," he said. "As it is even if we get the money we will probably have to disband our second team.

"But although our manager Billy Elliott has cut expenses to a minimum, our fine performance last season landed us in the soup. Some of the players obviously wanted a better contract. The manager had a very hard time of it, but the players saw reason in the end.

"Now it's up to the public. Darlington has only a small population, about 80,000 but we should get gates of 3,500."

Motor racing

Argentine GP falls victim to drivers' row

Buenos Aires, Feb 4.—The Argentine Grand Prix, scheduled to take place on March 7, has been postponed by the organizers because of the row over the status of drivers which erupted last month.

Drivers were suspended from world championship races immediately after the South African Grand Prix in a dispute over their refusal to sign a new "super licence" proposed by the sport's governing body, FISA. The drivers had earlier gone on strike over FISA's demand that they should sign.

The Argentine Automobile Club said yesterday they had suspended the race and asked FISA for a new date later in the year because the presence of drivers in Argentina was uncertain. It has also been suggested, however, that the club's own financial worries may have contributed to the decision.

The suspension of the race could jeopardize the Brazilian Grand Prix, scheduled for March 21 in Rio de Janeiro. Argentine and Brazilian promoters of the races traditionally share costs of transporting the vehicles and teams.—Agencies.

John Blunsden writes: Although, acording to the organizers, the Argentine Grand Prix has only been postponed, it will be virtually impossible to agree an alternative date in an already crowded 16-race calendar. There are also "reserve" races in the wings.

At present, the Brazilian Grand Prix is still to go ahead and as it falls two weeks before the race at Long Beach, California, it will be possible to spread transportation costs to some extent. Although the majority of the drivers' fines have been paid by their respective teams (they are responsible if the drivers themselves fail to pay them) the conflict is far from resolved.

Rowing

Five freshmen included in surprise Cambridge crew

By Jim Railton

The Cambridge University Boat Race crew was announced yesterday by Ladbrokes, the sponsors. The announcement comes surprisingly early with the race on March 26.

Cambridge's president, Roger Stephens made a final decision last Sunday and posted the list of names by second class post to Ladbrokes, who seem to have been taken by surprise, too. But their managing director, Gerald Green, was able to add: "In my view Cambridge have never had a better chance in the five years we have sponsored the Boat Race." Ladbrokes opened the Boat Race betting yesterday with Oxford slight favourites at 4—5, with Cambridge evens.

The Cambridge boat has on board five freshmen, including the coxswain, Bernstein. Cambridge's experienced oarsmen are tucked into the bows of the boat. Brine and Bliss rowed for the Cambridge reserve crew, Goldie, against Isis, and the president was in last year's losing Boat Race crew.

Cambridge's published weights appear slightly on the light side, averaging just under 12st 13lb. The list shows three men under 12 stone—stroke Harris, Pearson and Knight.

Some assessment of Oxford and Cambridge will be possible over the next month when they meet leading British eights. Cambridge will race the British lightweight and heavyweight national squads. Oxford meet London Universitf, who are likely to produce the fastest university eight this year, this weekend.

CAMBRIDGE: P St J Brine (St Edward's, Oxford, and LMBC), bow, 12st 3lb; A R Knight (Hampton and Clare), 11st 12lb; *R J Stephens (KCS Wimbledon and Emmanuel), 13st 5lb; N J Bliss (Barnard Castle and Corpus Christi), 13st 7lb; B C Philp (Bryanston and Downing), 15st; C D Heard (Shrewsbury and LMBC), 13st 12lb; E G M Pearson (King's School, Canterbury, and Jesus), 11st 13lb; S A Harris (Desborough School and Queens'), stroke, 11st 7lb; I P Bernstein (City of London and Emmanuel), cox, 7st 3lb. Average weight: 12st 12½lb.

*Former Blue

Golf

Celebrities enjoy halcyon days before the Clambake

From John Ballantyne
Monterey, Peninsula
California, Feb 4

Jack Nicklaus was the popular favourite as he kicked off after his partner, former President Gerald Ford, handicap 13, on the first tee at Cypress Point today in weather more reminiscent of the French Riviera in June.

The Bing Crosby national pro-am, or the "Crosby Clambake" as it is more commonly known here, has had snow and hail, wind and rain and mud and slush as handicaps to good golf in the past and, indeed, has thrived on its notorious reputation.

Even this week's "golfing celebrities", who include former Wimbledon champions Arthur Ashe (15) and Bob Falkenburg (6) (the latter playing at Pebble Beach with Nick Faldo), Clint Eastwood (18) and Nathanial Crosby the United States amateur champion (scratch), have been seen yarning over dinner tables about "the bad old days".

Today on that halcyon spot a family of seals slopped out on a rock midway across the bay, old daddy seal flat on his back being gently lifted up and down by the oily water; the ice plant round the green looked beautiful instead of treacherous, the hot sun having turned its rubbery green tentacles to spikes of crimson and gold and bright yellow flowers blooming everywhere.

Nicklaus, who lost narrowly to Miller last Sunday at San Diego, says he is "very keen to win one or two tournaments" before the Masters. He recalled that his most heartbreaking loss was in the British Open of 1972 at Muirfield. He agreed last week was another tough one to lose: "I was seven shots behind but I felt that if I scored a 64 I would win".

Other strong contenders include Tom Kite, Tom Watson, Raymond Floyd, Larry Nelson, David Graham and, of course, last week's fine winner Miller, who should play well in these conditions if his partner Charles Schulz (handicap 10) and the inventor of "Peanuts" does not make him laugh too much. Peter Oosterhuis is at Spyglass.

The 168 professionals play the three courses in turn, the leading 70 returning to Pebble on Sunday for the final round.

When Victor Charles discovered karate, his first search was over

A champion waits for recognition

The block of flats did not look the sort of place where world champions usually live. The downstairs windows were broken, the walls covered in graffiti and the lift seemed to have had a fire in it. Was it safe to get inside? Would one ever get out again?

Victor Charles, the world champion, lives on the ninth floor, so his manager and business consultant had said, so the lift seemed the only way to get up there. It's a 20-storey high-rise council block near Bow, in the East End of London.

The world champion was in the corridor, signing a poster for an old lady: "Victor Charles, world karate champion." He does not get asked for a lot of autographs, so when he does, he likes to add his full title. Just in case people do not know who he is.

He made some tea while we waited for his manager to arrive. His manager works in the purchasing department of an East End catering firm and he is called Finbar Charles. He happens to be Victor's younger brother, but they do not want to spread that about. They want to sound professional.

Victor is tall and handsome, like a young, but gentler Muhammad Ali, affable and charming, always about to smile, not given to boasting or pushing himself. Young Finbar eventually arrived from work, in spectacles and a button-down shirt, very much the young executive.

Why does Victor need a manager? Karate is basically an amateur sport, a minor one in which the great British public takes little interest.

The immediate answer is that tonight Victor will be on TV for the first time. He is appearing in a heat of *Superstars* and even though it is a hanging offence to give away any secrets, young Victor turns out to be the star of the evening.

Unfortunately he was unable to go on to the next round because of an injured foot. He competed while it was damaged, and in doing so made it worse.

This imminent TV exposure has convinced Finbar that his big brother needs professional management. "I see my role as relieving the pressure. My job is to block people". He could not remember how many offers he has turned down, but he did say yes to Haddersfield.

"That was very big. We both went up there last weekend. It was an exhibition at their youth centre."

Victor's success in his chosen sport has been remarkable. It is indeed a pity that his achievements have so far gone unnoticed. Winning any world event, from snooker to tennis, involves enormous personal struggles and sacrifices, but if you do it in a non-televised sport, you might as well not exist.



Michael Sullivan

Victor Charles (right), holder of 17 karate titles, with Finbar, his manager.

He was born in St Lucia in 1954 and followed his parents to London when he was six, along with his two brothers.

They're a catholic family, and Victor went to a good catholic secondary school in the East End, where he got a couple of "O" levels, but spent most of his time in sport. He was good at every game, but not quite brilliant at any. West Ham and Millwall gave him trials, but were not convinced, so he left school at 16 and became a welder for a while and then a tailor's cutter. Then he got a job in an adventure playground, as an assistant play leader. He is a student at present.

"This first play centre I worked in had a karate club, so I thought I'd join. It would burn off some sweat, give me something to do in the evenings," he said.

By the end of his first year, which was 1974, he was the British junior champion. He won more titles and was picked for the British squad for the world championships in Tokyo in 1977.

"But I didn't get on the floor. I was left out of the team. I was really sick. The winner was a Dutchman, so the next year I went to Holland for the Dutch open championships, and I beat him. The next year, I beat him again. He said we can't go on meeting like this . . ."

Today, Victor is the holder of 17 different titles. They include English, European and World championships.

He is not sure why it all suddenly clicked. One of the things he had never done as a boy was box. He is not an aggressive person, despite his powerful physique. For several years, he appears to have been a sportsman in search of a sport.

"What I like about karate," says Victor, "is that you can totally disarm someone, without hurting them, or even touching them. That's what you get points for. That's the skill.

"Some parts of the sport have had a bad name, all those macho kids trying to be Bruce Lee. Karate is like a big departmental sport. There's the art karate department, weapons, basic movements, contact fighting. What I'm doing is sport karate. "It's probably the sport's own fault that people don't really understand it, but it's growing all the time." In 1981 there were 43,580 karate players compared with only 16,000 in 1977.

Victor's flat is dripping with cups and salvers and medals. I admired them all, but couldn't find his world trophy.

"I gave that to my Mum. She has it in her flat.

Hunter Davies

Wednesday's results

League Cup
Semi final, first leg
West Brom (0) 0 Tottenham (0) 0
32,000

Second division
Newcastle (1) 2 Bolton (0) 0
Trewick (pen), Wharton 14,361
Norwich (1) 2 Sheff Wed (1) 3
O'Neill, Barham; Bannister 2, Pickering
15,767

Third division
Lincoln (0) 3 Chester (0) 0
Peake, Cammack, Shipley (pen) 2,120
Oxford U (1) 1 Reading (0) 0
Jones 9,354

Fourth division
Hartlepool (1) 1 Darlington (1) 2
Bird; McLean, Slater
4,148
Hereford (0) 0 Aldershot (0) 1
2,253 Sanford

Group Cup
Quarter final
Peterbrgh (0) 0 Wimbledon (0) 1

Scottish Cup
Second round, replay
G Fareyth (2) 3 Cowdenbth (1) 2
Russell og, Norman, Lothian; Forrest, pen, McFarlane

Third round, replay
Meadowbnk (0) 4 Clyde (0) 2
Boyd, Jamieson, Henrie; Nevin, Doherty
Winners away to Dundee

Scottish premier division
Partick (0) 0 Aberdeen (0) 0
St Mirren (0) 1 Dundee U (0) 0
Richardson

Scottish first division
Clydebank (0) 0 Raith (0) 1
Gibson
Dunfermline (0) 0 Ayr (0) 0

Scottish second division
Brechin (2) 2 Berwick (0) 0
I Campbell 2

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Weymouth 1, Trowbridge 0.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland: Wellingborough 1, Bedford 1. Cup fourth round: Dover 0, Wealdstone 2.
SPANISH CUP: Quarter-finals, first leg: Atletico Bilbao 1, Real Sociedad 0; Real Madrid 1, Atletico Madrid 0; Saragossa 2, Rayo Vallecano 1; La Coruna 1, Sporting Gijon 1.
FRENCH LEAGUE: Strasbourg 1, Bordeaux 0.
DUTCH CUP: Third round: PEC Zwolle 1, Feyenoord Rotterdam 0; Twente Enschede 1, Utrecht 2.
RUGBY UNION: Bath 47, RAF 4; Moseley 13, Loughborough Students 0; Pontypool 36, Penarth 6; Cross Keys 7, Newport 13.
RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Hull 12, Wigan 8.

Today's fixtures

Football
FOURTH DIVISION: Crewe Alexandra v Blackpool (7.30).

Rugby Union
CLUB MATCHES: Aberavon v Ebbw Vale (7.0); Bedford v London Welsh (7.30); Bridgend v Abertillery (7.15); Gloucester v Bristol (7.0); London Irish v Old Belvedere (2.45); Maesteg v Lydney (7.0); Neath v Newbridge (7.0); Northampton v Bective Rangers (7.30); Nottingham v RAF (7.15); Penarth v Swansea (7.0); Rosslyn Park v Bath (7.30).
REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: East Kent v Netherlands B (Canterbury, 2.0).

Yesterday's results

IRISH CUP: First round replay: Crusaders 1, Portadown 2.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: British Polytechnics 3, FA XI 4.
SCHOOLS MATCH: Under19 cup: Middlesex 2, Essex 3 (a.e.t.).

Boxing

MOSCOW: Amateur international: United States 6, Soviet Union 4.

Squash rackets

KUALA LUMPUR: World junior championship: Final: Sohail Qaiser (Pakistan) beat C Dittmar (Australia), 6—9, 10—8, 9—5, 9—2.

Table tennis

The champion looks to her bat for success

From a Special Correspondent

Jill Hammersley's defence of her European top-12 title starting today in Nantes, France, and continuing until Sunday, takes on a new dimension with her sudden adoption of the controversial bat with which John Hilton became European champion the season before last.

Hilton's bat, which combines a fast rubber with a dead one, has been the subject of speculation that there might be legislation to ban or restrict it. Mrs Hammersley hopes her bat can help create the improvement necessary if she is to hang on to her title against the formidable challenge of Bettine Vriesekoop, the Dutch woman who is Europe's No. 1 ranking player.

Mrs Hammersley, aged 30, has had difficulty maintaining full motivation this season, but in her only tournament so far with the new bat, the German Open, she gained revenge against Kirsten Kruger, the player who beat her in the European Superleague near the start of the season.

England's other contender, Desmond Douglas, who makes no secret of his great desire to succeed Hilton as European champion in April, will have Hilton helping him in his corner. The Lancastrian, who has slumped below 12th place in the European rankings, does not therefore qualify, but has taken over as temporary England captain in place of the unwell Peter Simpson.

BOMBAY: Commonwealth team championships. Men: Group A: Hong Kong 3, Canada 3; Scotland 5, New Zealand 1. Group B: England 5, India 4; Pakistan 5, Kenya 0; Nigeria 5, Sri Lanka 0. Women: Group A: Australia beat Hong Kong walkover; Nigeria 3, Sri Lanka 0. Group B: India 3, Pakistan 3; England 5, New Zealand 0; England 5, India 0; Scotland 3, New Zealand 1.

Boxing

Laing steps in and up

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

Kirkland Laing, the brilliant former British welterweight champion, returns to the Albert Hall, the scene of his ninth round defeat at the hands of Colin Jones, on Tuesday. He meets Reg Ford, of Guyana, the man who put Dave Green out of business.

Laing, who steps in and steps up as a replacement for Maurice Hope, aims to brush Ford aside on his way to meeting Jones. "I know I can beat Jones but the trouble is doing it," the fastest man in town says. Laing will get his chance as soon as Jones has got his European title bout with Hans Henrik Palm, of Denmark, out of the way.

Topping the bill with Laing is Cornelius Boza-Edwards, the former world junior lightweight champion. He faces Arturo de Leon, from Tucson. Much depends on how well Boza-Edwards has recovered from his surprise defeat by Rolando Navarette, of the Philippines, for he challenges Carlos Hernandez, of Spain, for the European title at the Albert Hall on March 17.

Hockey

World Cup format changes

By Joyce Whitehead

The four-yearly women's world championship, which next takes place in Kuala Lumpur from April 8 to 23, 1983, has so far attracted applications from 27 countries. The closing date has been extended to May 31 this year and, because of the "take-over" by the Federation Internationale de Hockey, the format will be different.

The top twelve seeded nations, on track record, will compete for the World Cup and the next twelve for the inter-continental cup. As the entry will be at least 27, there will presumably be elimination matches.

هكذا من الأصل

"Little Owl" affair highlights problems of beating bookmakers at the racing game

Punters gambling against the odds

The widespread interest in the recent "Little Owl affair" at Kempton Park — reflected in the vast media coverage — was because, for once, those perennial baddies of the racing world, the bookmakers, came off worse and were seen to squeal like stuck pigs. In the relentless war between them and the punters there is never any doubt where public sympathy lies.

In the Kempton race Little Owl, last year's Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, was long odds on to beat his two rivals, Venture To Cognac and Great Dean, but was pulled up halfway through the race by his owner-rider, Jim Wilson, because the bit had slipped through his mouth. The Kempton stewards "recorded" Wilson's explanation, which meant that they neither accepted it nor rejected it and the case could be reopened at any time.

The computer straight forecast (CSF) for Venture To Cognac and Great Dean paid 141-1 and bookmakers throughout the country were faced with enormous liabilities. They were recommended to withhold payment on the advice of BOLA (Betting Office Licensees' Association) who investigate what they consider suspicious circumstances on the bookmakers' behalf.

BOLA eventually decided that bookmakers had no grounds for withholding payment (some of them paid before the decision). The fact was that they had simply been caught with the pants of their sharp suits down. Astute punters realized that if Little Owl fell (he had done so in his previous race) the other two, who started at 5-2 and 66-1, had only to finish the course to provide a huge dividend.

According to a BOLA spokesman what they are looking for when they advise bookmakers not to pay out in such cases is evidence of "a contrived coup, malpractice and an attempt to manipulate the odds". That definition is a nebulous one and some say that bookmakers could avoid a heavy payout, at any time, simply by saying they smelt a rat. Gambling debts are not legally enforcable anyway.

It is not quite as simple as that. Apart from the fact that a bookmaker would lose all credibility if he refused to pay up without good reason, he would also be open to the ultimate sanction — that of having his livelihood taken away from him. A bookmaker must be a fit and proper person to hold a permit and it is open to anyone to object to the renewal of that permit each year.

In the bookmaker-punter war the punter can only go so far to relieve the bookmaker of his "hard-earned" cash.

There have been many celebrated and ingenious cases of overstepping the mark. For example in 1898, in the "Trodmore" affair, a syndicate persuaded the editor of The Sportsman newspaper to publish the programme and results of a bogus racemeeting at Trodmore, near St Ives in Cornwall. The syndicate backed only one of the fictitious winners, called Reaper, who was recorded as having started at 5-1.

Some bookmakers refused to pay out unless the results were published in The Sporting Life. A Mr Martin, the head of the syndicate, then rang the "Life" said he was speaking from Cornwall and managed to persuade them to reprint the results. However, the price of Reaper was then shown as 5-2 not 5-1. This caused an investigation and the police were brought in. The men were never caught, however, and as they appeared to have such an intimate knowledge of the workings of the press it was assumed that they were press men!

The most recent famous recent case was the Gay Future affair, which took place at Cartmel racecourse in 1975 and which became the subject of a highly entertaining television film called The Crack. The case went to court and set a racing precedent: it left a jury to draw the line — previously drawn by Tattersalls committee, the stewards and the Jockey Club — between, as Mr Justice Caulfield succinctly defined it, "the use of cunning in order to achieve maximum winnings and an agreement to defraud".

Tony Murphy and his Irish syndicate, the defendants in the Gay Future case, had, it seemed, overstepped the line — but only just. The judge said that the public at large had not been affected and that the dgree of dishonesty was, although a conspiracy to defraud, very much at the bottom end of the scale.

The syndicate entered Gay Future in a small race at Cartmel, knowing he had the form to win easily, but they kept the horse in training in Ireland and sent a "double" to Antony Collin's stable at Troon a month before the race. This was necessary because the Jockey Club rules require a horse to be with a trainer 28 days before a race.


Jim Wilson and Little Owl: on their way to a Gold Cup triumph

The horses were switched two days before the race, Tim Jones was substituted at the last minute for an unknown Scottish rider down to ride the horse and soapflakes were rubbed in Gay Future's flanks to make it appear as if he was sweating up in the parade ring. Collins entered two other horses, which never left his stables and which, he admitted, he never intended to run at Southwell and Plumpton, the same day, and the syndicate piled the money on. One third went on Gay Future, who won at 10-1, and the rest in doubles with the other two horses, non-runners which, under bookmakers rules, became single bets on Gay Future.

Unfortunately the case seems to have left racing in a grey area of the law. Mr Roger Gray, QC, summing up for the defence, said: "Things are done on the Turf which have never before been brought before criminal courts. But now as a result of this decision they will be crimes". Could the decision mean that trainers doping a horse of "pulling" it (concealing its true form) and then making a killing at inflated odds are now open to prosecution?

Bookmakers do not like, indeed will not tolerate winning punters — it is as simple as that. As a director of one of the big firms so eloquently put it: "We don't mind the occasional lucky bastard, but a clever bastard is a different matter".

The clever punter, for example, picks a race where there is a short-priced favourite and bets each-way (win and place) on another horse at longer odds which he knows will show a profit as long as it finishes in the first three. Such a punter would be put on "win only" betting and if he continued to profit would be quickly told to take his business elsewhere. The professional punter has become an extinct species because of the betting tax, but even in his heyday before the tax man like Alex Bird, who has made a fortune from betting, had eo employ men to put his money on for him because the bookmakers would not take his bets.

All this is legitimate business practice by bookmakers seeking to maximise their winnings. But what about a bookmaker who creates a false favourite to manipulate the odds in some other way to suit his book on a race? Or when a bookmaker takes ante-post bets on a horse knowing that it will not run in the race and the punter will lose his stake? Such things are certainly not unknown no matter how much the fraternity may deny it. But, and it seems particularly relevant in the case of the anti-post bets, do they simply involve the use of cunning or do they set out too defraud?

The question is purely academic because to prove that a bookmaker had such knowledge would be impossible. What has been proved over the years, though, is the increasing application of their dictum "Though shalt not win". As in the Little Owl case punters may win the occasional battle but they can never hope to win the war.

John Karter

The Latin connexion keeps Kent flying

By John Karter

Derek Kent, whose name will always be linked with that marvellous steeplechaser, Grand Canyon, is the sort of man who rises to a new challenge in the same way that Grand Canyon used to take his fences — eagerly and fearlessly. Kent, who trains at Funtingdon, near Chichester, is off to Hongkong in June after 12 years successfully churning out winners on the Flat and over jumps here.

The reason he is going is not dissatisfaction with English racing, far from it. He is keeping on his Chichester yard, which will be run by his stable jockey, Peter Haynes, and he intends to pop back between May and September when there is no racing out East.

Kent made a name for himself when he pioneered the importation of New Zealand horses a few years ago. Now he has found another distant but lucrative source of equine talents — Chile. Jugador, whom he bought there, has won him 10 races, and today Kent runs another latin leaper, Esal Condor, in the first division of the February Novices Hurdle at Kempton Park. The five-year-old had finished second twice in big fields at Wincanton, to Skeheens and Loan Charge respectively, and Kent believes that he is now fully acclimatized and ready to win.

The danger must be the newcomer, Al Kuwait, who was a useful if slightly unreliable stayer when trained by John Sutcliffe on the Flat. Now with Fred Winter, he has apparently shown plenty of promise over hurdles at home. His lack of experience, though, may just tip the scales against him.

Winter runs Young Dusky, who has shown ability in bumpers races in Ireland, in the second division of the Novices' race. Preference here, though, is for one or two others, notably Champagne Charlie, who failed to justify heavy ground at Warwick recently. Previously, he had been and impressive winner from Marcellino at Nottingham and may just be good enough to rebuff Mirror Boy, who beat the recent Cheltenham winner, Sindebele at Lingfield, and Busting, a promising fourth to Du Maurier over the course.

The Park Handicap Chase has the distinct look of a bookmakers' benefit. Nevertheless, it could pay to side with The Herb, one of the most consistent jumpers around. The Herb must have given backers of the odds-on News King severe heart palpitations when, admittedly in receipt of 2st, he ran Winter's brilliant two-miler to a head at Newbury. The Herb since finished third to Tower Moss, one of today's rivals here, and is 3lb worse off, but the last named has since run disappointingly at Windsor.

National talks give rise to optimism

Reports that a meeting has been arranged between the Levy Board Chairman, Lord Plummer, and Bill Davies, the owner of Aintree, may not mean that an announcement about the future of the Grand National is imminent.

It is feared that this year's running of the National, on April 3, will be the last. But even if Lord Plummer and Mr Davies get together, there is no guarantee that a settlement will be made quickly.

Lord Plummer, recognizing the needs for private negotiation, will not comment on the latest situation. But the fact that the two men are to meet gives rise to optimism that the 1982 Grand National will not be the last. There are likely to be many hours of negotiation before any announcement can be made.

STATE OF GOING:- Kempton Park:- Good to soft, Kelso:- Good. Tomorrow, Wetherby:- Good, Stratford-on-Avon:- Good.

Motoring by Peter Waymark

The Norwegian skid control

Those motorists, and there must have been many, who found it difficult to keep their grip on the icy roads a few weeks back, may wonder why Britain does not follow the example of Norway and include skid control in the driving test.

Even if the extreme weather we suffered does not occur very often, it is still worth knowing how to cope with emergencies and the number of drivers who have been formally instructed in how to correct a skid must be very small.

In this and other areas the Norwegian approach to learner drivers is a particlarly interesting one. It is based on the proposition, supported by research in several countries, that it takes five to seven years to master the art of driving and that inexperienced drivers are more often involved in accidents than experienced ones.

To meet the point, the Norwegian driving test was redesigned in 1979 and now consists of two parts. In phase one the learner driver undergoes basic instruction (the Norwegian authorities recommend approximately 55 hours) before taking two tests, one theoretical and the other on the road. Candidates passing both tests are given a probationary licence valid for two years.

During that time they are allowed to drive unaccompanied, but after a minimum period of one year they have to go through three further types of instruction before a permanent licence can be granted. One concerns theoretical work in the classroom, another driving in the dark and the third driving on ice, which includes tuition on a skid pan.

Probationers who do not come up to standard can have the permanent licence refused by the driving instructor, although there is a right of appeal to the ministry of transport. If the permanent licence is not obtained during the two years, the candidate loses his interim licence and the process must start again.

Phase two is virtually self-financing, because the extra instruction (four hours in each of the three cases) is provided by driving schools which charge fees for it. The government has, however, helped to pay for 20 new driver training centres, with skid pans, which have been established since the extended test was introduced.

Under the old system, Norwegian driving licences had to be renewed every 10 years. Now the licence is valid, subject to medical examinations every 10 years until the age of 73, after which a medical has to be passed every year.

It is still too early to say whether the revised test has had the desired effect but the structure does seem to be sensibly based and perhaps contains lessons for other countries, not least our own.

The British driving test has remained more or less unchanged since it was introduced in 1935. Every now and again some Minister of Transport takes a fresh look at it but invariably the verdict is that the test is effective and that changes would be difficult and expensive to implement.

Nor is the Department of Transport impressed by the idea that skid control should become part of driving instruction. "We are satisfied with the test as it is", the department said this week, though adding that candidates were expected to be able to answer questions on how to control a skid in the verbal part of the test.


Volvo has chosen unusual rear styling for its new 760 GLE saloon, announced this week in Sweden. Powered by a 2.8 litre petrol engine and, later, a 2.3 litre diesel, it will be launched in Britain in June. The car will initially be an addition to the range, though in the longer term it is expected to replace the 200 Series.

Audi 80 CD

Before this decade is out, the biggest car made in Europe apart from small number of luxury and performance models could be about the size of a Ford Cortina with a 2 litre engine as its top power unit. At the same time, it will have the comfort and refinement associated with today's "executive" cars and almost as much space. It could be not dissimilar from the new flagship of the Audi 80 range, the CD.

Apart from size for the sake of it, a car like the 80 CD surely offers almost everything a discriminating motorist wants; good handling and performance, low noise levels, a high standard of finish and the sort of features "big" cars are expected to have, from a sunroof to power steering, central locking, electric windows and alloy wheels. The only flaw in the argument is that it has a big car price as well, £7,956, putting it just ahead of the new Rover 2000.

The CD uses the five cylinder 1921 cc engine which had its first application in the Audi Coupe. Audi's idea in going for the unusual number of cylinders was to achieve the smoothness of a "six" without a resulting fuel penalty. Certainly, this unit is most civilized, hardly raising its voice above a whisper wven under hard driving. On the motorway, the top (fifth) gear cuts engine speed to 2,600 rpm at 70 mph and what mechanical noise there is becomes drowmed by the wind, not that it is intrusive.

Developing 115 bhp, the engine provides acceptably brisk performance. Acceleration from 0 to 60 mph takes just over 10 seconds and there is good pulling power in fourth gear, fifth being an overdrive for steady speed cruising. The claimed maximum is 113 mph.

Fifth gear is marked E, for economy, and has been given a high ratio to save fuel. Another aid to economical driving is an "econometer", a gauge related to throttle openings; the harder you drive, the higher the needle goes, and vice versa. The third inducement to economize is a small yellow arrow which lights up on the dashboard when it is time to select a higher gear.

For all this help, not to mention the aerodynamic front air dam, the actual consumption of the car proved a shade disappointing. My returns were 23 mpg in town and, in spite of extensive use of the fifth gear, 30mpg on the open road. It is difficult to agree with the manufacturer's asertion that "most owners should be able to achieve 35 mpg overall'.

As a car to drive, the Audi is enjoyable if you want to press on, and reasuringly safe.

People coming to the car for the first time will be struck by the firmness of the seats and ride. That is the German way of car desgn and largely follows from the decision to produce taut handling. The firmness will not be at all tastes (my son found the ride rather stomach churning) and those who prefer their cars softly sprung must go elsewhere. As for the seats, they do give good support, expecially for the back and the initial feeling of hardness soon disappears.

Thanks in part to the front-wheel drive layout, the car offers enough passenger space to justify the claim of being a full five-seater and the boot is deep, though it has a high lip and smallish opening. Inside, the car is tastefully furnished, with crushed velour uphclstery, and there us a pleasingly subdued colour scheme.

Renewed Accord

So far as we know there are no plans to build the Honda Accord at Cowley, although if BL wanted a high quality medium car quickly (which it does) then it could hardly make a happier choice. The original Accord was, at the time of its launch in 1976, arguably the best model to have come out of Japan and the revised range, which goes on sale in Britain on February 15, should be even better.

Superficially the car, available as a four-door saloon or three-door hatchback, looks much as before. But it is a little longer and wider to give more interior space, while modifications to the bodyshape have reduced aerodynamic drag and wind noise. The lower drag, and changes to the 1600 cc engine, have lowered fuel consumption by an average of three miles to the gallon.

According to the official figures, the saloon now gives 30.4 mpg in urban driving, 47.9 at 56 mph and 34.9 at 75 mph, which leaves British medium cars, like the Cortina, Cavalier and Ital somewhat trailing. Prices, too, are competitive, starting at £5,190 for the hatchback and rising to £6,940 for the generously equipped executive version of the saloon with automatic transmission.

Kempton Park programme

Tote double 2.30 and 3.30. Treble 2.00, 3.00 and 4.00

1.30 FEBRUARY HURDLE (Div I: novices: £1,282: 2m) (17 runners)

101	0-40f13	CASSLEY (D) (L Merson) G Merson 9-11-5	Mr P Hobbs 7
103		AL KUWAIT (Sheik Fahad) E Winter 6-11-0	Francome
107	pp	CITY LINK LAD (City Link Transport) D Wilson 6-11-0	M Coyle 4
109	0-0	CORBENSON (J Tucker) Mrs D Tucker 6-11-0	P Hobbs
111	0	DEEPSUNSET (R Gunner) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-0	C Brown
112	22	ESAL CONDOR (Esal Commodities) D Kent 5-11-0	P Haynes
113	24	GOLDEN ELDER (Mrs R Newton) N Gaselee 7-11-0	M Ley 7
117	4-	LE JOUR FORTUNE (Miss L Deverall) R Armytage 7-11-0	A Webber
118	f-00000	MORNING LINE (G Brunton) P M Taylor 5-11-0	S Keightley 4
119	0	MURRYFIELD LADY (Mrs J Skinner) C Read 5-11-0	M Perrett 7
121	0	NEARLY STRAIGHT (Mrs I De Wilton) Mrs E Kennard 6-11-0	Lorna Vincent
122	0022-03	NEW NOTE (L Waring) L Waring 7-11-0	Mr P Nicholls 7
123		PHYSIORAH (R Kirk) R Kirk 5-11-0	Mr T Moore 7
124	0	PIANOSO (Mrs E Richards) H O'Neill 5-11-0	M Hammond 7
125	320000	SIMBEAU (A Gardiner-Hill) H O'Neill 5-11-0	P Blacker
128	000-	SWEET ENCHANTMENT (L Wareham) B Stevens 5-11-0	Mr B Stevens
129	00-	WIDD (V Chandler Ltd) M Masson 5-11-0	P Scudamore

9-4 Esal Condor, 11-4 Al Kuwait, 9-2 Golden Elder, 6 Le Jour Fortune, 8 Cassley, 10 New Note, 12 Widd, 20 others.

2.0 PARK CHASE (Handicap: £2,219: 2m) (7)

203	f-00044	GAMBLING PRINCE (D) (Mrs G Jones) Mrs G Jones 9-12-0	P Scudamore
204	op3440	SOCKS (D,B) (Bunn Leisure) R Howe 9-11-9	R Stronge 7
206	221323	THE HERB (D) (Mrs D Wigham) Mrs D Oughton 7-11-4	M Coyle 4
207	2f4210	TOWER MOSS (CD) (A Neaves) A Neaves 9-11-7 (5 ex)	C Mann 7
208	f43024	HOPEFUL ANSWER (W Murray) G Balding 9-11-0	B Reilly
209	030-p02	DURHAM LAD (D) (J Kelly) C Wildman 9-10-10	—
210	400-023	EXCELSIOR (Mrs H Flashman) H O'Neill 8-10-4	M Hammond 7

6-4 The Herb, 9-4 Tower Moss, 7-2 Hopeful Answer, 9-2 Gambling Prince, 8 Durham Lad, 16 others.

2.30 FAIRMILE CHASE (novice: handicap: £3,406: 3m) (6)

301	341113	RANDOM LEG (CD) (Maj D Wigan) J Gifford 7-11-10	R Champion
303	0242f0	DRUMCONDRA (J Tahnton) D Nicholson 7-10-7	P Scudamore
305	0334b0	WAIT AND SEE (B) (R Mann) Mrs M Rimmell 7-10-5	S Morshead
306	f022042	FOXBURY (D) (S Richards) Mrs C Richards 8-10-4	Mrs L Sheedy
307	022042	NEW HARBOUR (B) (T Cox) A Pitt 8-10-0	R Hughes
308	000-040	FOOLSOME (L Bowman) L Bowman 10-10-0	R Rowe

10S-11 Random Leg, 5-2 new Habour, 7-2 Drumcondra, 8 Wait and See, 12 others.

3.0 WILFRED JOHNSTONE CHASE (Hunters: £1,238: 2½m) (11)

401	0b3101-	DANCING BRIG (D) (Mrs L Clay) T Clay 11-12-10	Mr T Clay 7
402	e11123-	ROADHEAD (D) (J Wilson) J Gifford 9-12-10	Miss M Wilson 7
404	/13130-	WIENER CHIC (Mrs S Reynard) Mrs S Reynard 10-12-10	Mrs S Reynard 7
405	10r240-	RAMBLIX (CD) (P Ledger) P Ledger 10-12-7	Mr T Head 7
406	114104-	SONG OF LIFE (CD) (P Greenall) P Greenall 7-12-7	Mr P Greenall
407	310r00-	TYNE (R Ewing) R Ewing 7-12-7	Mr R Ewing 7
408	ru100u-	DUCATOON (Miss D Yeomans) D Arbuthnot 11-12-0	Mr T Thomson-Jones
409	0f/002-	GREAT CRACK (Mrs M Close) Mrs M Close 13-12-0	Mr J McKie 4
410	000-p	MASTER NIBBLE (C Holmes) C Holmes 7-12-0	Mr C Holmes 7
411	p0340-4	TUNNEL MASTER (D Pitcher) D Pitcher 9-12-0	Mr D Pitcher 7
412	2f/fp0-	VIEWFINDER (R Nicholls) R Nicholls 12-12-0	Mr P Morgan 7

7-4 Dancing Brig, 5-2 Roadhead, 9-2 Wiener Chic, 8 Tunnel Master, 10 Song of Life,

3.30 WAVENDON HURDLE (Handicap: £1,886: 2½m) (16)

504	04312-1	MORTON THE HATTER (D) (F Hill) F Hill 6-11-7	M Perrett 7
505	10/242f	MANSTON MARAUDER (Lt-Col E Harles) R Hannon 6-11-2	P Corrigan 7
508	212-000	TARAS (A Aylett) A Aylett 6-10-13	A Madgwick
509	0-30014	KIRKSTONE PASS (CD) (G Amey) D Gandolfo 9-10-13	M Richards 5
511	0043-0p	MERDELITA (J Peers) M Haynes 6-10-12	A Wright 7
515	22f004	SANHEDRIN (D Thorne) G Balding 5-10-10	M Lynn 7
518	0131	CAPTAIN FANTASTIC (C Cyzer) C Cyzer 4-10-7	M Caswell 7
519	0-00300	ROAD TO MANDALAY (B) (Dataserv Ltd) D Barons 5-10-7	L Bloomfield 7
520	330344	DEAR OCTOPUS (B) (G Carlotti) G Ripley 6-10-7	D Dutton 5
521	04-0200	LOCKSLEY (D) (J Simons) Mrs J Pitman 8-10-7	T Williams 7
525	40200-0	BOLD AURA (S J Shipping Ltd) S Pattemore 8-10-7	Linda Martin 7
530	40/p000	PARNHAM PRINCE (Mrs A Beeson) E Beeson 8-10-7	D Dutton 5
531	12/00-0	STRATHELYDE (T Harvey Bird & Watson) S Pattemore 8-10-7	C Williams 7
533	u00000/	BABU'S COURT (Miss R Torre) J Thorne 7-10-7	Kim Giles 7
534	000440	ROYAL RICHES (L Northorpe) J Roberts 7-10-7	J Davies 7
537	p00/00	ROTHERCOMBE KNIGHT (D Hunt) H Willis 7-10-7	R Muggeridge 7

5-2 Morton The Hatter, 7-2 Captain Fantastic, 9-2 Kirkstone Pass, 6 Taras,

4.0 FEBRUARY HURDLE (Div II: novices: £1,248: 2m) (18)

601	010	CHAMPAGNE CHARLIE (D) (H Thompson) P M Taylor 5-11-5	S Keightley 4
602	0001	MIRROR BOY (D) (N Whitcomb) H Price 5-11-5	C Gwilliam 4
604	0-0	ADMINISTRATOR (H O'Neill) H O'Neill 5-11-0	M Hammond 7
605	605	ALLADO (A Neaves) A Neaves 6-11-0	C Mann 7
606	u3000/0-	BREATHING EXERCISE (Exors of the late D Lennon) J O'Donoghue 9-11-0	A Curran 4
607	2300-04	BUSTING (Mrs C Williams) R Turnell 8-11-0	A Turnell
612	0000-	HELEXIAN (S Crowe) A Ingham 5-11-0	Steve Knight
615	pp4pp/	JUBILEE PRINCE (G Hubbard) J Gifford 7-11-0	R Rowe
616	000/00-	KASSAK (G Dawes) H O'Neill 6-11-0	P Blacker
617		LAMPSTONE (R Barrs) H Willis 5-11-0	B De Haan
618	04	MAYFIELD BOY (C Godden) R Smyth 7-11-0	R Hughes
619	0	OVERULE (Mrs S Kenworthy) D Marks 5-11-0	T Austin
620	000-003	PYKESTAFF (A Richards) C Austin 5-11-0	P Scudamore
623	0	TOWER WIN (D Turner) C Benstead 5-11-0	M Coyle 4
624	003403-	TULAROWENA (Mrs D Tucker) Mrs D Tucker 7-11-0	P Hobbs
625		VIC THE BUSKER (Mrs H Bars) I Dodgeon 5-11-0	G McCourt
626	00-3040	YORK TERRACE (Mrs A Yiannakou) D Elsworth 5-11-0	C Brown
627	000-	YOUNG DUSKY (T Ludlow) F Winter 6-11-0	J Francome

7-4 Mirror Boy, 9-2 Champagne Charlie, 6 Busting, 7 Pykestaff, 8 Young Dusky,

Kempton Park selections

By John Karter

1.30 Esal Condor, 2.0 The Herb, 2.30 Random Leg, 3.0 Roadhead, 3.30 Road To Mandalay, 4.0 Champagne Charlie.

Kelso programme

1.15 MAXTON HURDLE (Div I: novices: £589: 2m) (19 runners)

1	-0100	MASTER BLASTER W A Stephenson 6-11-11	Lamb
4	000-	ARRMENOS R Johnson 6-11-1	D McCaskill 4
5	000	DARKEZ Goldie 7-11-1	Mr J Dun 7
6	2f00	GAY LUCKY Miss E Wilans 7-11-1	Redfern
7	0/0	GIBBON Bycroft 6-11-1	D Wilkinson
8		H LINE Barron 8-11-1	S Charlton
9	004	MELFORT BAY Haldane 6-11-1	Mr J Walton
10	00	PERFECT FIT J Jeffrey 8-11-1	Mr T Jeffrey 7
11	0000/	PRINCE BEAU V Thompson 7-11-1	Mr M Thompson 7
12	000/0	STARMASE T Barnes 7-11-1	M Barnes
13	004f	SUPREME LIL W Storey 6-11-1	Mr F Storey 7
15		WHAT-A-CASE G Richards 5-11-0	Doughty
16	0-	YOUNG DRIVER J S Wilson 5-11-0	A Stringer 4
18		CONFORM S Leadbetter 4-10-0	J O'Neill
19	000	DONALLAN T Craig 4-10-0	E Brand 7
20	0	MISS COMMUNE R Gray 4-10-0	J Allen
21	0	RHADI BOY R Dods 4-10-0	J Hansen 7
23	f	SCOTTISH DREAM G Lockerbie 4-10-0	Balmer
24	20	THE CLIFTONIAN M W Dickinson 4-10-0	Pimlott
22	040-0	QUIET CANNON J Barry 5-11-0	J Hansen 7
23	0000-	ROMAN VIEW R Dods 5-11-0	J O'Neill
25	000-	THELMAS SECRET T Barnes 5-11-0	M Barnes
26	0000	WILLERBY T Craig 5-11-0	Tuck
28		CORNADORA Jewett 4-10-0	—
29		PAULINE'S PET R Robinson 4-10-0	M Pepper 7

7-4 Scottish Dream, 11-4 The Cliftonian, 9-2 Master Blaster, 6-1 Young Driver, 7 What-A-Case, 16 Armenos, 25-1 others.

1.45 MAKERSTOUN HURDLE (Selling handicap: £522: 2m) (12 runners)

1		REDOUBLED Leadbetter 8-12-4	D Johnson
3	4p0-4	PADDY-ONE-ROW Vickers 7-11-10	G Grey
4	23-0	KIBCOY (D8) C Bell 5-11-5	R Campbell
5	0000	GO LIGHTLY Crump 5-11-4	M Stephens
6	100-0	TOM HORN (D9) J Berry 5-11-4	M Berry
7	0	THAT'S MAGIC J Parkes 4-11-3	M Pepper
8	2-004	MENALIST V Thompson 6-11-2	J Hansen
10	00p-0	ARAB MERCHANT (B) Bycroft 6-10-8	J Brady
14	00-00	FYLDON (B) O Brennan 5-10-5	M Brennan
15	000-0	KERSIL Chamberlain 5-10-3	T G Davies
17	030	QUAM CELERRIME W Bentley 4-10-0	K Adshead
18	pp-0	KING OF SAND W Bentley 7-10-0	—

3 Tom Thorn, 7-2 Paddy-One-Row, 9-2 Kibcoy, 6 Quam Celerrime, 7 Menalist, 8 Go Lightly, 12 That's Magic, 20 others.

2.15 RUTHERFORD CHASE (Handicap: £937: 2m 196yd) (8)

1	0310	DUSKY DUKE (CD) W A Stephenson 7-11-10	R Lamb
2	0322	EVEN MELODY N Crump 13-11-2	C Hawkins
3	3012	CLOWN COURT J Berry 7-10-9 (6ex)	J O'Neill
4	2031	PERCIPIENT G Richards 8-11-0 (6ex)	R Barry
5	3pf2	POLARS LADDIE R Goldie 9-10-8	Mr T Dun
6	fp00	SUPREME SAIL V Thompson 11-10-7	Mr M Thompson 7
8	2-000	SPARTAN RED H McConnell 12-10-0	Mrs A Robertson
9	4u0	PAMPERED SOVEREIGN (CD) V Thompson 11-10-0	P Tuck

9-4 Clown Court, 7-2 Polars Laddie, 9-2 Dusky Duke, 5 Percipient, 7 Even Melody, 12 Pampered Sovereign, 20 Supreme Sail, Spartan Red.

2.45 MAXTON HURDLE (Div II: novices: £614: 2m) (21)

1	0400	SIR MARCUS (D) W Reed 6-11-11	Mr T Reed 7
3	4p-34	CAMBORNE HILL C Bell 6-11-1	C Pimlott
4	020/0	DOJUMOLA Storey 6-11-1	D Wilkinson
5	10-00	GUN POINT Denys Smith 7-11-1	C Tinkler
6	300-0	IRISHMAN Crump 6-11-1	C Hawkins
7	000	LEAM LORD O Brennan 6-11-0	M Brennan
9		NO MATCH Leadbetter 6-11-1	Nolan
12	0	WITCHES KNOWE K Oliver 6-11-1	Mr T Dun
13	44-p0	YOUNG SAGERT J Charlton 9-11-1	B Adamson 7
14	0000	BYCLOUCHBOY R Allan 5-11-0	Mr R Shiels 7
15		COLONEL ROSE GOLDIE 5-11-0	Mr J Dun 7
16	f00	EMOC J S Wilson 5-11-0	A Stringer 4
17	0000	INSTANT FREEZE B Mclean 5-11-0	S Charlton
20	000	NORTHERN EDITION W A Stephenson 5-11-0	Lamb
21		PORTMADOC W A Stephenson 5-11-0	Mr E Mcintyre 4

11-4 Quiet Cannon, 4 Northern Edition, 5 Camborne Hill, 7 Sir Marcus, 10 Leam Lord, 14 Emoc, 20 others.

3.15 TEVIOT CHASE (Handicap: £1,303: 2¾m) (13)

2	14f2	RIVER SIRENE T Barron 9-11-12	J O'Neill
3	3404	IMPUS R Robinson 9-11-11	M Pepper 7
5	0134	KING VULTURE G Richards 9-11-9	Doughty
6	3020	WHAT A COUP (C) Dalgetty 7-11-6	D Nolan
9	224-0	BORDER BRIG (C) Brewis 11-10-13	Pimlott
10	020-p2	LASOBANY C Bell 9-10-13	Tuck
11	0e0p	LORD PROVOST [illegible]	[illegible]
12	f3bo	ROBBIE'S PARK [illegible]	[illegible]
13	2fp0	LARRY BELL (C[illegible]	[illegible]
14	2343	EASBY GOLD [illegible]	[illegible]
16	-11fu	BLACKHAWK STAR [illegible]	[illegible]
18	p030	ARPAL GLIDER [illegible]	[illegible]
20	004-	CINCHID Fairbairn [illegible]	[illegible]

7-2 River Sirene, 4 Lasobany, [illegible] Gold, 8 Border Brig, 10 What A Coup, [illegible]

3.45 ANCRUM CHASE (Novices: £904: 3m) (16)

1	2p3ufu	GILL BECK (B) G[illegible]	[illegible]
2	21302p	TWICE TIMES (C[illegible]	[illegible]
3	333012	TWIFLIGHT B Wi[illegible]	[illegible]
6	00100-0	CHANCE COMMAND [illegible]	[illegible]
9	00000	DAILY SERENADE [illegible]	[illegible]
10	f00-2fu	DARTH VADER [illegible]	[illegible]
11	22ffuu	FOXY PERCY Mrs [illegible]	[illegible]
14	0/000	MASTER VIEW [illegible]	[illegible]
15	0p/0p	MOONLIGHT INVA[illegible]	[illegible]
16	03p4	MR BRADY W A S[illegible]	[illegible]
17	0/0p0	MY SAINT ANNE [illegible]	[illegible]
18	pp0-0	NICKY TAM A Sco[illegible]	[illegible]
19	0020	OUTLAW MAN-O [illegible]	[illegible]
20	p	PEG'S BOY N Byc[illegible]	[illegible]
21	4/3fp	PENOBEN J Nelso[illegible]	[illegible]
25		STANWICK GOLD [illegible]	[illegible]

2 Twiflight, 3 Twice Times, 4 Da[illegible] Brady, 10 Chance Command, 16 others.

4.15 MAXTON HURDLE (Div III: novices: £609: 2m) (20)

1	3140	LYNE MILL Swindle[illegible]	[illegible]
2	131	TULA FANCY (CD) [illegible]	[illegible]
3		BIRTLEY BOY Mrs [illegible]	[illegible]
6	00-33	HEADMERE R John[illegible]	[illegible]
7	00/0f	MICKCONE J Hend[illegible]	[illegible]
9	00	STOP IT A Scott 7-[illegible]	[illegible]
10	000-0	TARISMA I Jordon [illegible]	[illegible]
11	0000	BIRRENS BELLE T [illegible]	[illegible]
12	0430	CHASTITY BELT R [illegible]	[illegible]
13	0p	DEREK'S BAY Barn[illegible]	[illegible]
14	0000	NELLIES PAL C La[illegible]	[illegible]
15	0	SECRET SIN J Cha[illegible]	[illegible]
17	u00-	WELSH DAI V Thom[illegible]	[illegible]
19	0	EBORACUM B Wilk[illegible]	[illegible]
21	4022	GEORDIE LAD Deny[illegible]	[illegible]
23	0	NAIF Lockerbie 4-1[illegible]	[illegible]
24	0	NOBLE WHIN C Bel[illegible]	[illegible]
25	0402	PLACE CONCORDE [illegible]	[illegible]
26	400	POLIPUTER Harman [illegible]	[illegible]
28		WORDEL Leadbetter [illegible]	[illegible]

9-4 Tula Fancy, 3 Geordie Lad, 5 [illegible] Noble Whin, 10 Naif, 14 Lyne Mill, 20 [illegible]

Kelso selections

The Cliftonian, 1.45 Kibcoy, 2.15 Percipient, 2.45 Irishman, 3.15, King Vulture, 3.45 Chance Command, 4.15 Place Concorde.

Lingfield Results

Going: Chase heavy, hurdles soft

1.45 (1.50) HEDDON HURDLE (Div I: £989: 2m)

KINGS GLORY br c, by Royal and Regal — Dazzling Light (C Heard) 4-10-0 R G Hughes (6-4 fav) 1
Silcakey .... J Davies (9-4) 2
Low Tide .... R Rowe (100-1) 3

TOTE: Win 25p; places, 14p, 14, 38. Dual F: 32p. CSF: 47p. P. Mitchell, at Epsom. 4l, 8l. Brogue (200-1) 4th. 12 ran. NR Amman.

[illegible]

Towcester results

Going: Good

1 30 (1.31) MARSTON NOVICE HURDLE (Div 1: Novices: £552. 2m)

HASTY STORM b g by Hasty Word — Stormation (Mrs G. Brazier) 5-11-7 J. Francome (4-7 fav) 1
Pincents .... P. Richards (14-1) 2
Black Penny .... H. Davies (7-1) 3

[illegible]

Yalu .... S. Morshead (33-1) 2
Yellow Coll .... A. Webb (20-1) 3

TOTE: Win, £1.15, places, 48p, £1.04, 46p. Dual F: £13.65. CSF: £14.74. T. Foster, at Wantage. 5l, 2l. Hanfold Lad (3-1 fav) 4th. 14 ran.

2.30 (2.31) ROTHERSTHORPE CHASE (Handicap: £1,060: 2m 50yd)

FALKLAND PALACE b g by Royal Palace — Festival Night (A. Elias) 5-11-9 P. Scudamore (9-4 fav) 1

[illegible]

PERSONAL COLUMNS

". . . O LORD of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in Thee."—Psalm 84: 12

BIRTHS

ANDREWS.—On 3rd February, 1982, at Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital, to Carolyn and David—a son (Samuel John), another brother for Lucy, Benjamin, Martin and Rupert.

BADENOCH.—On 30th January, at St Thomas's Hospital, to Marie-Therese and James—a son (William James Cabourn), a brother for Isabel.

BLAKE.—On February 3rd, at Queen Charlotte's, to Annabelle (nee Bathurst), wife of Anthony—a son (Timothy Simon).

BOYLE.—On February 3rd, 1982, at the Princess Margaret Hospital, to Angela (nee Paton) and Robin—a daughter, a sister for Darren.

BUTT.—On February 4th, at Hongkong Adventist Hospital, to Fredi (nee Skodie) and Richard—a daughter (Abigail Rose Evelyn).

COHEN.—On February 3rd, to June (nee Kefford) and Clive—a son (Edward Aidan Kingsley).

COLLET.—On February 3rd, at St Thomas's, to Marianne and Harald Collet—a daughter.

DRAYTON.—On February 4th, 1982, to Jacqueline (nee Simonds) and John—a daughter.

LEGG.—On 26th January to Nichola (nee Durant) and Adam—a son (Richard Philip).

MAURICE.—On 30th January, 1982, to Rachel (nee Burdill) and David—a son (Edward Samuel).

OWEN.—On February 4th, at Royal United Hospital, Bath, to Liz (nee Morrell) and Mich—a daughter (Kate).

SEYMOUR.—On February 3rd at Queen Charlotte's Hospital to Judith-Rose (nee Hull) and John—a son.

BIRTHDAY

HUSSEY, DAVID ADRIAN.—Your family wishes you a happy 19th birthday.

DEATHS

ADDA.—On February 3rd, in Rome, Marie Adda, beloved sister of Helene Mosseri and dear mother of Susanne Errera, Jequeline Coen, Colette Hawes and Helene Alexander. Private funeral. No flowers please.

AINLEY, Dolores Iris.—Peacefully on Tuesday, 2nd February, 1982, at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Guernsey, Channel Island. [illegible]

[illegible]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSIONED WRITER seeks £2,000. Security. Hampstead flat; good quick return. 01-[illegible] 1018 from 9-6 p.m.

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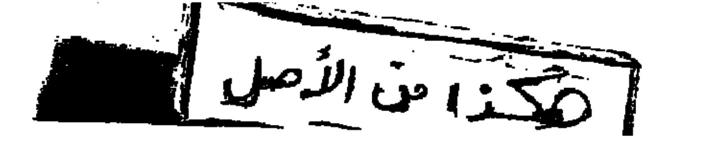
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

9.00 For Schools, Colleges: Today's subjects are: Biology: Better Badminton; Look and Read; It's Maths!; Maths File; Hyn o Fyd (for Welsh viewers); Talkabout; and Plants in Action (one parent families); 12.30 News After Noon: with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart; 12.57 Financial report. And news headlines; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One; Peter Seabrook's gardening feature. And another of the Living with Leisure items on sports and pastimes; 1.45 Bagpuss: for the very young; 2.02 For Schools, Colleges: Personal View (with Claire Rayner) and A Good Job with Prospects; 3.00 Closedown; 3.20 Pobol y Cwm (serial, in Welsh. The third episode); 3.55 Play School (see BBC 2, 11.00am).

4.20 Captain Caveman: cartoon.
4.30 Think Again: The seven ages of Johnny (Johnny Ball).
4.55 Grange Hill: comprehensive school serial. Episode 10. What happened on Belinda's and Annette's exploration.
5.20 The Amazing Adventures of Morph: with Tony Hart (r); 5.25 Welcome to Wodehouse: John Alderton tells the story Goodbye to All Cats.
5.40 News: with Richard Baker; 6.00 South East at Six. And, at 6.22, Nationwide, including Sportswide at 6.45.
7.00 The Superstars: Third heat of the chase for the Ferguson Men's Championship. The contestants include pole vaulter Brian Hooper and England Rugby Union full-back Marcus Rose. There's also Wales and British Lions scrum-half Terry Holmes and European and World Games karate gold medallist Vic Charles.
8.00 Fame is the Spur: Part five. Polling day in the by-election. But wouldn't Arnold's victory actually be Hamer's?
8.50 Points of View: with Barry Took and a selection of viewers' letters.
9.00 News with John Simpson. And weather prospects for the weekend.
9.35 The European Ice Figure Skating Championships: The Ice Dance Championship, from Lyons, in France. In the free dance, Britain's Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean are the centre of attraction. They are attempting to retain the European title which they won last year. They already hold the world title. It is likely that, in the competition's final stage, the two champions could be joined by another two British couples, Karen Barber and Nicky Slater, and Wendy Sessions and Stephen Williams. There is also coverage of the short programme in the Ladies' event. The British champion, Debbie Cottrill has her eyes on a medal.
10.15 Face the Music: Joseph Cooper again presides. And his team tonight consists of Joyce Grenfell, Robin Ray and Bernard Levin. The guest is Hanryk Szeryng (r).
10.45 News headlines. And weather forecast.
10.50 Film: Zorba the Greek* (1965) Life-saluting Michael Cacoyannis drama, set on the island of Crete, with Anthony Quinn as the volatile Greek who re-shapes the character of a quiet British writer. Ends at 1.15am.

BBC 2

11.00 Play School: Cynthia Felgate's story Bother that Phone! 11.25 Closedown; 3.55 Around with Alliss: Peter Alliss and Michael Parkinson chat as they play golf (r).



Miriam Stoppard: BBC 2, 6.40

4.30 Flying High: History of aviation in the West. Final film in the series (r).
5.00 World Ski-ing Championships: Ladies' slalom and Men's combined downhill. From Schladming.
5.40 Film: Sherlock Holmes and the Spider Woman* (1944). The super sleuth and his bumbling companion versus a dreaded adversary (Gale Sondergaard). With Basil Rathbone, Nigel Bruce.
6.40 Heroes: Dr Miriam Stoppard's idols include Grace Darling and Alan Alda.
7.10 Oxford Road Show: Live, from Manchester.
7.50 News.
7.55 In the Country: Angela Rippon and Tony Soper on St Micheal's Mount in Cornwall.
8.25 Newsweek: What can the West do about Poland's shattered economy? Keith Kyle reports.
9.00 Little Ginny Sings Country: From the Snape Maltings, in Sussex. A concert by the diminutive Londoner. Also taking part is the 1960s pop star Lorne Gibson, still busy entertaining.
9.30 Playhouse: Out of Step. Carol Bunyan' drama stars Jacqueline Tong as the ballroom dancer with a serious drink problem. Albert Welling plays her dancing partner and Gillian Raine plays their instructor.
10.35 Cartoon: Diogenes, Perhaps. It was made in Yugoslavia.
10.45 Newsnight: Comment and news bulletins.
11.30 Friday Night . . . Saturday Morning. The master of ceremonies is Professor Laurie Taylor, Professor of Sociology at the University of York. His guests are Beryl Bainbridge, Tom Conti, playwright Neil Dunn, broadcaster Ray Gosling and playwright Trevor Griffiths. Ends at 12.25am.

ITV/LONDON

9.35 For Schools: The subjects are:— Reading with Lenny: How We Used to Live; 1-2-3-Go; Physics in Action; Geography Today; Alive and Kicking; Stop, Look, and Listen; Documentary Re-run (Stench in the Ear); 11.55 Comic Stories; 12.00 A Handful of Songs; 12.10 Once Upon a Time: Noisy Neighbours; 12.30 Simply Sewing: Making a batwing-sleeved dress (r); 1.00 News; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 Take the High Road:Scottish estate serial; 2.00 After Noon Plus: with Elaine Grand and Simon Reed; 2.45 Film: Where the Bullets Fly (1966) British-made spy comedy with Tom Adams as the secret agent who takes on a gang that's after a formula for a nuclear-powered plane. With Dawn Addams, Sidney James, Wilfred Brambell.

4.15 Dangermouse: British-made cartoon serial; 4.30 Razzmatazz: Pop music show, with Gary Numan and Dance Class.
4.45 Jukes of Piccadilly: Comedy thriller serial. Final episode of The Case of the Arabian Kidnap. With Nigel Hawthorne (r); 5.15 Square One: The Joe Brown board game. With Tim Brooke Taylor and Floella Benjamin.
5.45 News; 6.00 The Six O'Clock Show: Current Affairs with a light touch. With Michael Aspel and Janet Street-Porter. Fred Housego looks after the traffic reports and local news is presented by Rita Carter and Andrew Gardner.
7.00 Family Fortunes: The Jones's from Swansea (l) play the Farestvedts from Barton-le-Clay, Beds.
7.30 Hawaii Five-O: Drama about a troublesome widow and a missing girl. With Jack Lord as the private eye (r).
8.30 Shine on Harvey Moon: Harvey (Kenneth Cranham) invites his son's teacher (Fiona Victory) out to dinner and his wife Rita (Maggie Steed) is beaten up.
9.00 The Gentle Touch: Police drama series. Two women live together. One of them (Sheila White) has leukaemia and has not long to live. She asks her friend (Fiona Walker) to put an end to her suffering. Reluctantly she forges prescription for two bottles of powerful sleeping pills. Jill Gascoine plays Detective Inspector Maggie Forbes.
10.00 News from ITN.
10.30 Bizarre:The comedy show from the United States that is too remorselessly American for the tastes of many people over here.
11.00 The London Programme: The Breakdown Business. A special investigation into some of the unsatisfactory practices that are adopted when cars break down and drivers have to seek assistance from vehicle recovery firms. Some of them are "cowboys" and leave cars in a dangerous condition. It's a programme that makes out a good case for joining one of the reputable motoring organizations.
11.35 Soap: American comedy series.
12.05 Paris By Night: Life in the French capital at the turn of the century.
12.30 Close: With Quentin Crisp.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs. Castaway: Paul McCartney.
9.45 Feedback. Your views on BBC TV and Radio. Presented by Tom Vernon.
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "The Bridge", by H. E. Bates. The reader is Shirley Dixon.
11.00 News.
11.05 Great Families of Britain. A series of radio portraits (3) The Noble House of Howard.
11.50 Bird of the Week: The great tit.
12.00 News.
2.02 You and Yours.
12.27 My Word!†
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour. Includes the recollections of a royal pastry chef, Colin Alderson.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play "Short Madness" by Dawn Lowe-Watson. With John le Mesurier and Elizabeth Bell.†
4.05 Poetry Please!†
4.15 Modern French Writers (2) Albert Camus.
4.45 Story Time: "Marital Rites" by Margaret Forster (10).
5.00 PM: News magazine.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News and Finanacial Report.
6.30 Going Places. The travel and transport scene.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week.†
8.10 Profile. A personal portrait.
8.30 Any Questions? With Lord Rawlinson, Malcolm Muggeridge, John Mortimer and Glenda Jackson.
9.15 Letter from America.
9.30 Kaleidoscope. Includes an item on the Dame Edna Everedge Show at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.35 Week Ending.†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" by James Joyce (15).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 John Ebdon delves into the BBC Sound Archives.
12.00 News.

VHF: 6.25 Weather. 9.05 For Schools. 10.30 Listen With Mother. 11.00 For Schools. 2.00 For Schools. 5.50 PM (continued). 11.00 Study On 4

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert. Roy Harris, Chabrier, Turina; records.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Bach, Liszt, Haydn; records.†
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composers. Albinoni and Marcello, records.†
9.45 Melos Quartet of Stuttgart. Recital: Mendelssohn, Shostakovich, Schubert.†
11.20 Very Old and Very New. Concert: anon., Arvo Part, anon., Ludwig Senfl, anon., Thomas Stolzer, Senfl, Isaac, Roger Marsh.†
12.15 Midday Concert direct from the Henry Wood Hall, Glasgow. Part 1: Mozart, Hummel.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Interlude.
1.20 Midday Concert. Part 2: Brahms (Symphony No. 3).†
2.05 Cello and Piano. Recital: Stravinsky, Martinu, Debussey.†
2.45 Zuzana Ruzickova. Harpsichord recital: Purcell, Viktor Kalabis, Elizabeth Maconchy, Antoine Losy.†
3.25 Mahler and Prokofiev. Concert.†
4.00 Choral Evensong from Paisley Abbey.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure with Joe Riley.†
6.55 Play it Again. Preview.
7.00 Sibelius on record. Incidental music to Pelleas et Mélisande.†
7.30 Songs by Faure, Wolf and Strauss. Song recital direct from the Broadcasting Centre, Birmingham. Part 1: Faure.†
8.05 Poetry Now. New poetry readings. The reader is Alan Brownjohn.†
8.25 Songs by Faure, Wolf and Strauss. Part 2: Wolf, Strauss.†
9.15 The Moment of the Flying Fish. Short story by Jack Trevor Story. The reader is Martyn Read.
9.30 Copland and Gershwin. Concert. The Copland work is A Lincoln Portrait, and the Gershwin work is the Symphonic Portrait, Porgy and Bess, arranged by Robert Russell Bennett.†
10.15 Book, Music and Lyrics a personal view of musicals by Robert Cushman "Hollywood", with original cast recordings.†
11.00 News.
11.05 Vexations by Satie; record. Played by Michel Dalberto.†
VHF ONLY— 11.20pm-12.20am: Open University.

Radio 2

5.00am Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 Gloria Hunniford.† 2.00pm Ed Stewart.† 4.00 David Hamilton.† 5.45 News and Sport.† 6.00 John Dunn.† 8.00 Sequence Time.† 8.45 Friday Night is Music Night.† 10.00 Listen to Les. 10.30 Anything for a Laugh.

Radio 1

11.15 Brian Matthew. 12.00 Round Midnight and Weather from midnight.† 1.00am Truckers' Hour.† 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

5.00am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00 Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show.† 12.00 Midnight Close.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 648 KHz (463m) at the following times GMT. 6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Backtracking. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Divertimento. 8.30 Smash of the Day: The Navy Lark. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Music Now. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 Business Matters. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 The Ages of Man. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Just a Minute. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 Letter From London. 9.55 Waveguide. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 A Murder of Quality. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Music for the Harpsicord. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 A Word in Edgeways. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95 8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1

BBC Cymru/Wales 12.57-1.0 News. 1.45-2.2 Corachod. 2.35-3.00 Ysgolion. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 4.55-5.20 Olwynion. 6.0-6.22 Wales Today. 7.0-7.30 Heddiw. 7.30-8.0 Pobol Y Cwm. 10.15-11.5 Week in Week out. 11.5-11.6 News 11.6-12.40 Film: The Lost Continent (Eric Porter). Scotland 11.0-11.22 For Schools: 12.55-1.0 News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 6.0-6.22 Reporting Scotland. 10.15-10.45 Goodbye Mr. Kent. 10.45-10.50 News. 1.15 News. Northern Ireland 11.0-11.22 Closedown. 12.57-1.0 News. 3.20-3.53 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.0-6.22 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 1.15 News. England 6.0-6.22 Regional Magazines 10.15-10.45 East Weekend; Midlands — Know Your Place; North — Politics North; North East — Coast to Coast; North West — Home Ground; South — The Writers' Programme; South West — Down the Club; West — Newsroom File;

TVS

As Thames except: 1.20-1.30 TVS News. 2.45-4.15 Film: They Might Be Giants (1972) (Joanne Woodward and George C Scott). 5.15 Watch This Space. . . . 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.00 Friday Sportshow. 7.30-8.30 The Fall Guy. 11.00 Film: Dr Blood's Coffin (1961) (Kieron Moore, Hazel Court) 12.40 am Company.

ANGLIA

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Appointment with Venus. Attempt to rescue Venus, a prize Englins cow, from an island.* 11.00 Members Only. 11.30 Film: Night Visitor (Max Von Sydow, Trevor Howard), man wrongly incarcerated in an asylum escapes to murder those who are responsible for putting him there. 1.25 It's All In The Opera.

HTV WEST

As London except: 11.50-12.00 Cartoon 1.20-1.30 News 2.45-4.15 Film: Devil on Horseback* (Googie Withers, John McCallum) Downfall of an ambitious jockey. 5.15-5.45 Benson 6.00 News 6.30-7.00 Mr and Mrs 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy 10.28 News 10.30 Good Neighbour Show 11.00 Film: Gentlemen Prefer Blondes (Jane Russell, Marilyn Monroe). Girls sail for Europe to find rich husbands. 12.40 Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV WEST except: 11.34-11.49 About Wales 12.00-12.10 Ffalabalam 4.15-4.45 Merched y Souk 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd 6.15-6.30 Report Wales 10.30-11.00 Outlook.

SCOTTISH

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Man Without a Country. Thriller set aboard an American naval ship in 1820. 5.15 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.25 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear, Here. 7.30-8.30 Thingummyjig. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Bizarre. 11.30 Late Call. 11.35 Streets of San Francisco. 12.30 Closedown.

CHANNEL

As London except: 11.25 am-12.00 Look and See. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Green Grow the Rushes (Richard Burton, Honor Blackman) Two civil servents try to curb smuggling. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.35-7.00 All That Jazz. 7.30-8.30 Hart to Hart. 10.28 News. 10.35 Aujourd'hui en France. 10.40 Mysterious Tales. 10.45 Three's Company. 11.15 Film: The Cat (Jenn Gabin) Ageing couple's hate is as strong as their love once was. 12.45 am Closedown.

CENTRAL

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: Old Man Who Cried Wolf (Edward G.Robinson). An old man sees his friend beaten to death but the police do not believe him. 4.10-4.15 Windows. 6.00-7.00 News. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy (Lee Majors). 11.00 News. 11.05 Film: Halloween Night (Donald Pleasence, Jamie Lee Curtis). 12.55am Barney Miller. 1.25 Closedown.

ULSTER

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45-4.15 Film: Where the Bullets Fly. British fighter planes are forced to shoot down one of their own aircraft. 5.15 Hear, Here. 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.30-7.00 Diff'rent Strokes. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Gloria Plus: Conversation, music and entertainment. 11.35 Bedtime, Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: 9.25 am Good Word. 9.30-9.35 News. 1.20 pm-1.30 News, Lookaround. 2.45-4.15 Film: The Arsenal Stadium Mystery (Leslie Banks). Scotland Yard is called in to investigate the murder of a footballer.* 6.00 News. 6.02 Sportstime. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 News. 10.32 From Here to Eternity, part 3. 12.20 pm Poet's Corner. 12.25 Closedown.

BORDER

As London except: 1.20 pm News. 2.45 Film: Winslow Boy (Robert Donat, Margaret Leighton) Naval cadet's life seems ruined when he is charged with theft. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 That's Hollywood. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Take the Mick. 11.00 Bizarre. 11.30 News. 11.33 Closedown.

TSW

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Green Grow the Rushes (Richard Burton, Honor Blackman). Two civil servants try to prevent the marshmen of Kent from carrying on their traditional occupation, smuggling. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 What's Ahead. 7.30-8.30 Hart to Hart. 10.35 Postscript. 10.40 Mysterious Tales. 10.45 Three's Company. 11.15 Film: The Cat. Ageing couple's hate is as strong as their love once was. 12.46am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

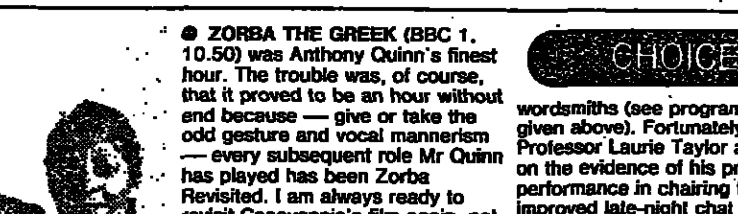
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: They Might Be Giants (George C. Scott) lawyer facing an emotional crisis imagines he is Sherlock Holmes and retreats into a private fantasy world. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Sport. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Film: Killer With Two Faces (Ian Hendry, Donna Mills) Charming and handsome killer meets a pretty girl. 12.25 am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As London except: Starts 9.00 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Mister Jericho (Patrick Macnee, Connie Stevens) Comedy thriller about an international conman. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Points North. 11.30 Streets of San Francisco. 12.25 News. 12.30 Closedown.

GRANADA

As Thames except: 11.45 am-12.00 Wattoo, Wattoo. 1.20 pm Granada Reports. 1.30 Exchange Flags. 2.00 Take The High Road. 6.00 Kick Off. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Week On Friday. 11.30 Film: Pink Telephone (Mireille Darc, Pierre Mondy) Pompous industrialist falls in love with a call-girl. 1.15 am Closedown.



Albert Welling and Jaqueline Tong: Out of Step (BBC 2, 9.30)

CHOICE

● ZORBA THE GREEK (BBC 1, 10.50) was Anthony Quinn's finest hour. The trouble was, of course, that it proved to be an hour without end because — give or take the odd gesture and vocal mannerism — every subsequent role Mr Quinn has played has been Zorba Revisited. I am always ready to revisit Cacoyannis's film again, not only to wonder at Mr Quinn's elemental Greek, but also to enjoy the indispensable music of Nikis Theodorakis, to be moved by the faded fantasies of Madame Hortense (Lila Kedrova in a performance she has never equalled) and admire the harsh brilliance of Walter Lassally's black-and-white camerawork which deserved an Oscar, and got one.

● FRIDAY NIGHT . . . SATURDAY MORNING (BBC 2, 11.30) has a panel made up entirely of wordsmiths (see programme details given above). Fortunately, it has in Professor Laurie Taylor an MC who, on the evidence of his previous performance in chairing this much-improved late-night chat show, will be equal to the occasion. Most chat shows make the guests fit the presenter. Here is one that appears to reverse that policy, with resultant benefits all round.

● Musical highlights on radio: Brahms's third symphony, played by the BBC Scottish, under George Hurst (Radio 3, 1.20); Dmitiri Sitkovetsky playing the Prokofiev violin concerto No 1 with the North German Radio SO (Radio 3, 3.25); comic songs that poke fun at the British in Richard Anthony Baker's record programme Anything for a Laugh (Radio 2, 10.30pm); and Hollywood-inspired songs in Robert Cushman's Book, Music and Lyrics (Radio 3, 10.15pm).

● Spoken word highlights: Two first-rate radio actors, John Le Mesurier and Elizabeth Bell in Dawn Lowe-Watson's Afternoon Theatre play SHORT MADNESS, about a widowed schoolmaster's friendship with the woman next door (Radio 4, 3.02); John Cruickshank's profile of Albert Camus (Radio 4, 4.15) and ANY QUESTIONS? (Radio 4, 8.30) which fields the strong team of Malcolm Muggeridge, John Mortimer, Glenda Jackson and Lord Rawlinson. The questioners are the good people of Pulborough, in West Sussex.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO ★ BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

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i.e., Monday is the deadline for Wednesday, Friday for Monday and Tuesday. Stops and Alterations to copy is 3.0 p.m. prior to the day of publication; for Monday's issue the deadline is 5.30pm on Friday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

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Personal Columns	£3.25 per line (min 2 lines) £17.50 per cm semi-display (min 3 cms) £20.00 per cm full display (min 3 cms)
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Weekend Shoparound	£14.00 per cm full display (min 5 cms)
Court Circular	£5.00 per line
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Fears of unrest keep Warsaw University shut

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Feb 4

A fresh sign of official anxiety about popular unrest came today when Warsaw University remained shut, despite published plans to begin formal classes for undergraduates. Some students, however, returned to the campus and attended special meetings during which lecturers read out the new strict regulations on university life.

The students were then obliged to sign a document stating that they had heard and understood the regulations, which amongst other things provide for expulsion for political activity. Unofficial reports say that a number of student leaders have been interned over the past few weeks, including some that have had no association with Solidarity or NZS, the independent student union.

Mr Jerzy Urban, the Government spokesman, said in an interview that martial law restrictions had been tightened up in a Wroclaw college since a recent demonstration by students.

In Gdansk too there are persistent reports of continuing student discontent—and much tighter university regulations since Saturday's demonstration. A traveller recently returned from the city said that as many as 9,000 were involved in the demonstration and that the attack by riot-police was spurred by agents provocateurs in the crowd who shouted "Reagan, Reagan!" Significantly the new administrative head of Gdansk is an Army officer, General Mieczyslaw Cygnon.

Church sources say that Father Hendryk Jaworski, the priest of Mr Lech Walesa's parish in Gdansk, was denied access to the Solidarity leader *when he tried to visit him to* discuss the name of his newly born child. [Mrs Danuta Walesa gave birth to a baby girl, their seventh child, on January 27, AP reports]. This is the second time in recent days that the authorities have blocked church contact with Mr Walesa.

There are a number of possible explanations being mooted. The first is that Mr Walesa may have been moved from house-arrest in Konstancin to a Ministry of the Interior building in the centre of Warsaw and that the authorities *want to avoid* publicizing the fact. There is no way of testing this theory.

The second possible explanation is that Mr Walesa's official status is now that of an interned prisoner and that he is no longer under the vaguer conditions of house arrest.

The final—and for the Church, far more disturbing explanation — is that the Government may have grown suspicious of church contacts with Mr Walesa, knowing that sometimes messages are passed, through informal church channels, between members of the Solidarity membership.

The Government spokesman said today that Mr Walesa had been holding "question conversations" with Mr Josef Ciusek, Minister for Trade Union Affairs, about the future of the trade union movement.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Urban said that a concept of trade union structure was still being worked out by the Government, but he gave some clues as to how the new "Solidarity" will be organized. There might well, he said, be a move away from the regional structure that characterized the old Solidarity. This had allowed considerable power to regional union chiefs and had contributed to the divisions—and in the Government view—to the radical postures of the union. Instead, there might well be a return to unions that grouped certain industries.

☐ Brussels: A credit squeeze on the Soviet Union, now seems inevitable. France made the difficult decision today to allow the EEC to recommend higher charges for Russian export credits negotiated through the OECD.



A warm welcome from the Pope as his fellow countryman, Mgr Jozef Glemp, Primate of Poland, arrives at the Vatican for talks on the situation in Poland. (Report, page 9.)

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Mum's the word in the House and at home

Mr Lewis Carter-Jones, one of the diminishing number of salt-of-the-earth figures on the Labour benches, complained yesterday about the inadequacy of the Government's three new experimental nursing homes for old people in diverse parts of the country. "It's just a soporific", he assured us.

It was the sort of intervention, made late in the afternoon during a rather gentle and drowsy debate on the plight of elderly people, that always causes the mind pleasantly to wander. Did he mean the experimental nursing homes was just a sop? Had he misplaced the word "palliative"? Was he under the impression that "soporific" meant "palliative"? (The mistake is easily made.) Did he not have the faintest idea what either word meant or indeed what he was talking about? Or was the word beautifully and exactly chosen—conveying, as it did, the possibility that it might be extremely boring to live in one of these experimental nursing homes? On balance, one should accept the last explanation.

Mr Carter-Jones's remark happened when he intervened in the speech of Mr Norman Fowler, the secretary for social services. It was the speech's highlight. For Mr Fowler, though he is able and kitted out with a good brain, and is all the other things which people say about young ministers, he is sometimes—how should one phrase this without giving him offence?—just a little palliative.

Mr Carter-Jones's case demonstrated once again that on the whole MPs should stick to short Anglo-Saxon words instead of too much of that Latin-based filth. Not too short and Anglo-Saxon, though, as a ruling by the Speaker made clear. In the debate on sex shops on Wednesday evening, the Labour left-winger Mr Reg Race had spoken in fluent Anglo-Saxon when quoting from the prospectus of one of these emporia. In a ruling at the end of question time yesterday, the Speaker, Mr George Thomas, said that he would always regard the term used the previous evening as "unparliamentary". "None of us would use it in our own homes," he added.

One shares the general admiration for Mr Speaker Thomas, but is compelled to observe that this last observation was peculiarly irrelevant. The fact that none of us would use it in our own homes has nothing to do with whether a word is suitable for us in Parliament. There are plenty of words used in Parliament which MPs would not use in their Or at least we must assume that MPs do not lounge around their own homes shouting out "order, order", or "resign" or "withdraw". O at least we must assume that only a few members of strange and unusual tastes do so.

Moreover, was the *Speaker* entirely right in thinking than no members would use the word in their own homes?

Mention of filth, leads one naturally to the contemporary *theatre*. *Toby Jessel* (Twickenham, Con), in asking Mr Francis Pym (Leader of the House) to arrange for a debate soon on the arts, explained: "There is a very great interest in the arts. More people now go to the theatre than to football matches." The thought occurred that perhaps these theatregoers were the former football goers. Was Mr Jessel wise to be so pleased? Is it not true that people behave badly at football, that they sing Anglo-Saxon songs and chant accusations of unnatural vice against players of whom they disapprove?

Mr Pym agreed there should be a debate, but was wary of welcoming this alleged Thespian hysteria. Mr Jessel had opened up a vista of fights between pro-RSC and pro-National gangs, chants of "Oscar Wilde's a queer" and other unpleasantnesses. It was clear that Mr Pym would soon be facing calls for a debate on theatre hooliganism.

Yard lost £5,000 taken from prisoner

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Scotland Yard has admitted losing more than £5,000 confiscated from a man during his arrest in 1978. The money has never been found despite an internal inquiry.

Scotland Yard refused to make good the loss until the man threatened them with legal action. Now he is to receive the full amount, £5,443, and a further £1,670 in interest.

The money disappeared after Mr Thomas Naylor, a film maker, of Chelsea, west London, was arrested by Customs and police officers on drugs charges. He was taken to a west London police station where £30,000 in cash was seized.

In July 1979 Mr Naylor, who is in his 40s, pleaded guilty at Inner London Crown Court to smuggling 108 kilos of cannabis resin from Amsterdam. He was sentenced to three years in prison but the court ordered that his money should be returned to him, and most of it was.

Scotland Yard told *The Times*: "At the conclusion of proceedings against Mr Naylor there was a difference of opinion between Mr Naylor's claim and the amount of cash in our possession."

The police said at the time that there must have been a mistake when the money was first counted, but an investigation was carried out by officers from the Yard's Complaints Investigation Bureau who submitted a report to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

The report, presented in the middle of 1980, concluded that there was no evidence that the money had been stolen but mistakes could have been made when it was counted and entered in the files.

The case was closed in June, 1980 and Scotland Yard said: "The report was sent to the DPP who decided there was insufficient evidence to institute proceedings against any police officer. The inquiry revealed discrepancies in the documentation of money actually taken."

Mr Naylor was told the result of the inquiry by the DPP in October, 1980, but the Yard continued to refuse to pay anything back. Late last year Mr Naylor instituted civil proceedings in the High Court and the Yard capitulated after taking counsel's advice.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Exhibitions

Scottish Young Contemporaries, Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen, 10 to 5.

Lincolnshire at work, Victorian and Edwardian photographs, Museum of Lincolnshire Life, Burton Road, Lincoln, 10 to 5.30.

Arrogant Connoisseur: Richard Payne Knight, 1751-1824, Whitworth Art Gallery, University of Manchester, 10 to 5.

Thousands of pictures—millions of miles, photographs by Freddie Reed, National Centre of Photography, Octagon, Milson Street, Bath, 10 to 4.45.

Twenty years of work by Vladimir Mayakovsky, Fruit Market Gallery, 29 Market Street, Edinburgh, 10 to 5.30.

Paintings and drawings by Harold Gilman, 1876-1919, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham, 10 to 5.30.

Talks, lectures

Roman wall painting, by Patsy Vanags, 11.30; and Chinese expressionist painters of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, 1.15; British Museum.

Music and painting (1): Kandinsky, by James Malpas, Tate Gallery, 1.

Honthorst: Christ before the high priest, by Colin Wiggins, National Gallery, 1.

Last chance to see

Poussin and his engravers, University Art Gallery, Portland Building, University of Nottingham, 10 to 7.

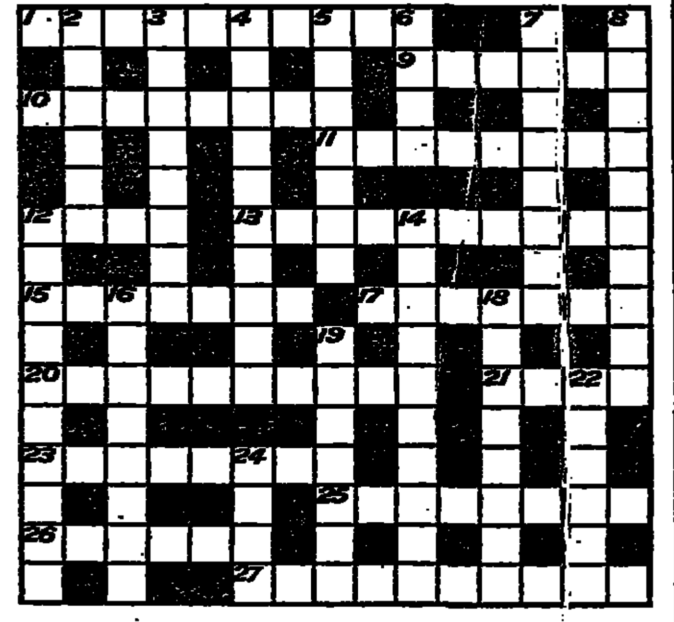
Prints and watercolours by Michael Cullimore, Anthony Davies and John Macfarlane, St Paul's Gallery, St Paul's Street, Leeds, 10 to 5.

Music

Concert by the West Suffolk Youth Orchestra, St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds, 7.30.

Academy of ancient music chamber music recital, Saltram House, Plymouth, 8.

The Times Crossword No 15,748



ACROSS

1 Musicians striking? (10).
9 Bird found mineral oil mixture in it (6).
10 Star provided for "The Missing Letter"? (8).
11 Surprising amount of money for fruit, perhaps (8).
12 Yield to court expert, say (4).
13 Whereby characters are screened in Latvia (10).
15 Confounded axe-head struck heavily (7).
17 Immediate tick? (7).
20 Dish cooked by Maclean (n.b.g.) (10).
21 Husky fare for Fingal's dog (4).
23 Call about the kiln — it's very hot (8).
25 Can I embrace many in friendly spirit? (8).
26 Infantryman should be part of the foot (6).
27 Lear's little dog a darling (10).

DOWN

2 Letters written in direction of old Jew (6).
3 Top politician's home has *draughts, we hear* (8).
4 Cricketers' side, including Rex, left behind by aircraft (10).
5 Source a writer might dip into (7).
6 Time is up, too (4).
7 Anna is to transpose music (8).
8 Duke set spring fashion round bingo centre (10).
12 Room can supply wine (10).
14 Millionaire gives Brenda £5—it needs changing (10).
16 Foot "in a shoe" for instance (8).
18 Make synopsis of banned tale, possibly (8).
19 Play some chess? (3,4).
22 Sportsman gets point of view right (6).
24 Mischief-makers put one in the chemist (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,747

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

The papers

The Daily Mail comments today that the train drivers' strike has one cheerful aspect, the resourceful way in which commuters have responding to the challenge of having no trains. Some rise before the postman, some share vehicles, while others have rediscovered the charms of the bicycle. "As a result, the travelling public is winning: it is those who work in British Rail who stand to lose."

The Daily Express, writing on the findings of the latest Mori public opinion poll, notes that an *increasing number of people* are expecting the economy to improve, although 40 per cent still think it will get worse. "The indices are all moving in the Government's favour", it says. With the election not likely to be held until the spring of 1984 Mrs Thatcher has plenty of time in hand to swing it."

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private Members' Bills: Planning Inquiries (Attendance of Public) Bill and Death Grant Increase Bill, second readings.

Sporting fixtures

Football: Fourth division, Crewe v Blackpool (7.30)

Racing: Meetings at Kelso (1.15) and Kempton Park (1.30)

Sport on TV

BBC 1: The Superstars, Ferguson men's championship; 9.25, European ice figure skating championships.

BBC 2: 5.0, World skiing championships, men's giant slalom.

Travel today

Pre-recorded travel information on Traveline—Rail: 01-246 8030; Road: 01-246 8031; Sea: 01-246 8032; Air: 01-246 8033.

Rail

British Rail expects to operate normal services today on commuter and Inter-City routes after the Aslef drivers' strike yesterday and Wednesday. First train from King's Cross to Edinburgh at 8 am and to Aberdeen at 12 noon. Some cancellations on Newcastle-Liverpool cross-Pennine service via Manchester.

Manchester - Gatwick - Brighton service running up to Birmingham only, but alternative arrangements made. Eastern Region travellers to the North-east and Edinburgh must expect delays because of landslip at Grantham.

Refunds

Season ticket holders will be able to claim extensions or refunds for the days of the train drivers' strikes, British Rail said yesterday. Weekly season ticket holders will be able to claim refunds only, but for longer period tickets either option is available, *through the ticket* office where the season was bought.

Claims for refunds or extensions for the Sunday strikes will be approved if the traveller makes a statement that he would have travelled on a Sunday.

Air and sea

A work-to-rule strike by French customs agents spread to virtually all French border posts and international airports yesterday, causing long lines and some flight delays. At Calais, truck drivers exasperated over lengthy waits used their rigs to block the terminal entrances to England-bound Channel ferries.

Because of Sealink dispute, no Newhaven / Dieppe ferries operating.

Roadworks

Scotland: A96: West High Street, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, major repairs. M9: All traffic sharing one carriageway at junction 10 (Stirling). A93: Sewer work is in hand along Dundee Road, Perth, temporary signals operate 24 hours.

North: A59: Temporary signals at Skipton, Yorkshire, delays. A5117: Temporary traffic lights operating between Hapsford and Dunkirk, north of Chester.

Information supplied by the AA.

Anniversaries today

Robert Peel was born in Bury, Lancashire, 1788; John Lindley, botanist, at Catton, Northumberland, 1799; Dwight Moody, evangelist, in East Northfield, Massachusetts, 1837. Thomas Carlyle died in London, 1881.

Vegetable prices

Cauliflowers are excellent value this weekend at 30p to 50p a pound, and good buys are carrots, Savoy cabbage, leeks and turnips. Greek and Spanish cucumbers are dear at 50p to 75p each. Apples are not cheap, but there is a wide choice of varieties. Cape dessert plums are reasonably priced.

Top box office films

The top 10 films in London:
1 Arthur
2 Body Heat
3 Fort Apache, The Bronx
4 Gallipoli
5 Lady Chatterley's Lover
6 The French Lieutenant's Woman
7 Ghost Story
8 Rich and Famous
9 An American Werewolf in London
10 The Woman Next Door

The top five in the provinces:
1 Hot Bubble Gum
2 Arthur
3 Dressed to Kill/The Amityville Horror
4 Midnight Express/McVicar
5 Lady Chatterley's Lover

Compiled by Screen International.

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.78	1.70
Austria Sch	32.25	30.25
Belgium Fr	86.00	82.00
Canada $	2.33	2.24
Denmark Kr	14.95	14.20
Finland Mkk	8.74	8.29
France Fr	11.60	11.00
Germany DM	4.58	4.33
Greece Dr	125.00	116.00
Hongkong $	11.30	10.70
Ireland Pt	1.29	1.24
Italy Lir	2440.00	2340.00
Japan Yn	462.00	436.00
Netherlands Gld	5.01	4.75
Norway Kr	11.54	10.94
Portugal Esc	134.00	125.50
South Africa Rd	2.05	1.90
Spain Pta	195.50	186.50
Sweden Kr	11.14	10.56
Switzerland Fr	3.70	3.48
USA $	1.92	1.85
Yugoslavia Dnr	105.00	98.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

London: The *FT* Index closed down 3.2 at 574.8.

Auctions today

Christie's, King Street: fine Continental pictures of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, 11. Christie's, South Kensington: printed books, atlases and maps, 10.30; old and modern silver, 2. Phillips, Blenheim Street: silver and gold boxes, 11. Sotheby's, Bond Street: carpets, 10; modern prints, 10.30 and 2.30.

Bond winners

Winners of £10,000 prizes in the February Premium Bond prize draw are: 6BZ 780367 (winner lives in Essex); 10LT 956499 (Berkshire); 23RB 071975 (West Yorkshire); 20VL 767056 (Lincolnshire); 19WZ 644836 (Norwich).

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Weather

A S airstream will cover all areas

6 am to midnight

London, SE, Cent S, E, Cent N England, East Anglia, Midlands, Channel Islands: Some fog patches early, mostly dry with sunny intervals; wind S, moderate; max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

SW England, S Wales: Generally cloudy with perhaps a little rain in places; wind S, fresh or strong; max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Rather cloudy and mostly dry; wind S, fresh or strong; max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen: Mostly cloudy with a few sunny intervals, wind S fresh; max temp 7 or 8C (45 or 46F).

SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: Generally cloudy with occasional rain or drizzle; wind S, fresh or strong; max temp 9 or 10C (48 to 50F).

Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy with occasional rain or drizzle; wind S, fresh or strong; max temp 5 to 7C (41 to 45F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Rather cloudy, some outbreaks of rain chiefly in the N and W, some bright intervals mainly in the E, mild.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind S to SE, fresh, occasionally strong; moderate or rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind S to SE, strong to gale; sea very rough.

Sun rises: 7.33 am — Sun sets: 4.57 pm
Moon sets: 5.18 am — Moon rises: 1.39 pm
Full Moon: February 8.

Lighting up time

London 5.27 pm to 7.02 am
Bristol 5.37 pm to 7.11 am
Edinburgh 5.24 pm to 7.28 am
Manchester 5.29 pm to 7.16 am
Penzance 5.52 pm to 7.19 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	8	46	Guernsey	f	8	46
Birmingham	c	7	45	Inverness	f	6	43
Blackpool	c	8	46	Jersey	f	9	48
Bristol	c	9	48	London	s	11	52
Cardiff	s	8	46	Manchester	c	7	45
Edinburgh	c	10	50	Newcastle	c	5	41
Glasgow	c	9	48	Ronaldsway	c	7	45

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Valley, London Heathrow, Isles of Scilly, Bristol, Northolt 12C (54F); lowest day max: Eskdalemuir, Lerwick, Dyce, 5C (41F); highest rainfall: Long Kesh, .08in; Highest sunshine: Folkestone 6.4hr.

London

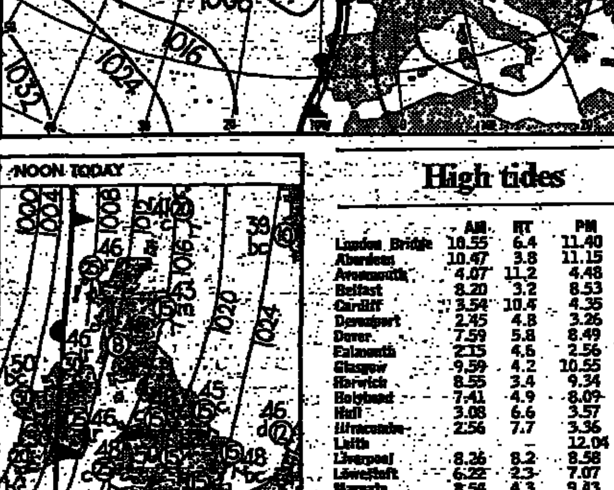
Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 12C, (54F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C, (41F). Humidity: 6 pm, 82 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 4.8hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,023.2 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

MANCHESTER: Cosmos 1220: 18.6-18.13; WSW; 55NW; NE and 19.50-19.53; WNW; 20N; N*. Agena DR: (Feb 6) 2.35-2.36; NNE*; 15NNE; NNE and 4.19-4.26; N*; 25NNE; E and 6.2-6.14; NNW; 70NE; SE. Aryabhata R: (Feb 6) 5.28-5.32; SSW*; 55SSW; ESE.







b—blue sky; bc—blue sky & cloud; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	10.55	6.4	11.40	6.5
Aberdeen	10.47	3.8	11.15	4.0
Avonmouth	4.07	11.2	4.48	11.6
Belfast	8.20	3.2	8.53	3.3
Cardiff	3.54	10.4	4.35	10.8
Devonport	2.45	4.8	3.26	4.8
Dover	7.59	5.8	8.49	5.8
Falmouth	2.15	4.6	2.56	4.6
Glasgow	9.59	4.2	10.55	4.3
Harwich	8.55	3.4	9.34	3.4
Holyhead	7.41	4.9	8.09	5.1
Hull	3.08	6.6	3.57	6.6
Ilfracombe	2.56	7.7	3.36	8.0
Leith		—	12.04	4.9
Liverpool	8.26	8.2	8.58	8.6
Lowestoft	6.22	2.3	7.07	2.2
Margate	8.54	4.3	9.43	4.3
Milford Haven	3.12	5.9	3.50	6.1
Newquay	2.09	6.0	2.45	6.2
Oban	3.15	3.2	4.03	3.5
Penzance	1.53	4.8	2.31	4.8
Portland	3.35	1.6	4.28	1.6
Portsmouth	8.29	4.2	9.14	4.2
Shoreham	8.19	5.5	8.59	5.6
Southampton	8.09	4.2	8.46	4.2
Swansea	3.25	8.1	4.02	8.4
Tees	12.41	4.7	1.21	4.8
Walton-on-Naze	8.51	3.7	9.32	3.8

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarborough	0.2	—	6	43	Cloudy
Bridlington	1.2	—	6	43	Cloudy
Cromer	5.3	—	9	48	Sun pds
Lowestoft	3.7	—	6	43	Sun ints
Clacton	4.3	—	7	45	Sun ints
Margate	5.6	—	9	48	Sun pds
Folkestone	6.4	—	10	50	Sun pds
Hastings	5.6	—	9	48	Sun pds
Eastbourne	6.2	—	9	48	Sun pds
Worthing	5.5	—	9	48	Sun pds
Littlehampton	5.0	—	10	50	Sun pds
Bognor Regis	5.7	—	9	48	Sun pds
Southsea	—	—	9	48	Sun ints
Shanklin	4.5	—	9	48	Sun pds
Bournemouth	3.5	—	9	48	Sun ints
Aldergrove	—	.02	9	48	Cloudy
Eskdalemuir	—	—	5	41	Cloudy
Prestwick	—	—	9	48	Cloudy
Abbotsinch	—	—	10	50	Cloudy
Tiree	0.4	—	8	46	Cloudy
Stornoway	1.2	—	9	48	Cloudy
Lerwick	—	—	5	41	Cloudy
Wick	—	—	6	43	Cloudy
Kinloss	2.1	—	10	50	Cloudy
Dyce	—	—	5	41	Cloudy
Leuchars	0.4	—	7	45	Cloudy

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	c	13	55	Cologne	f	4	39
Akrotiri	s	11	52	Copenhagen	c	3	37
Alexandria	f	13	55	Corfu	s	13	55
Algiers	s	19	66	Dallas			
Amsterdam	c	5	41	Dublin	c	8	46
Athens	c	7	45	Dubrovnik	s	9	48
Barbados				Faro	c	17	63
Barcelona	f	14	57	Florence	s	5	41
Beirut	c	8	46	Frankfurt	s	0	32
Belgrade	f	0	32	Funchal	c	17	63
Berlin	s	-3	27	Geneva	r	3	37
Bermuda				Gibraltar	c	15	59
Biarritz	c	17	63	Helsinki	c	-4	25
Boulogne	s	9	48	Innsbruck	c	2	39
Bordeaux	c	12	54	Istanbul	sn	0	32
Boston				Johannesburg			
Brussels	c	7	45	Las Palmas	s	19	66
Budapest	s	5	41	Lisbon	s	15	59
Cairo				Locarno	f	3	37
Capetown				Los Angeles			
Casablanca	s	23	73	Luxembourg	c	2	36
Chicago				Madrid	c	9	48

		C	F			C	F
Majorca	f	15	59	Salzburg	s	1	34
Malaga	f	16	61	Sao Paulo			
Malta	s	13	55	San Francisco			
Melbourne				Santiago			
Miami				Singapore			
Milan	fg	-1	30	Stockholm	s	-6	21
Montreal				Strasbourg	c	1	34
Moscow	c	-4	25	Sydney			
Munich	s	0	32	Tangier	s	19	66
Nairobi				Tehran			
Naples	s	8	46	Tel Aviv	r	10	50
New York				Tenerife	c	21	70
Nice	f	9	48	Tokyo			
Oslo	sn	-5	23	Toronto			
Ottawa				Tunis	s	18	64
Paris	s	12	54	Valencia	c	12	54
Prague	f	-4	25	Vancouver			
Reykjavik	r	8	46	Venice	s	3	37
Rhodes	s	8	46	Vienna	s	-2	28
Riyadh				Warsaw	s	-3	27
Rio de Janeiro				Washington			
Rome	s	11	52	Zurich	f	1	34

